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## Missile fired at Tehran

# Iraq beats back Iranian offensive

BAGHDAD, March 13. (Agencies): Iraq said today its warplanes attacked a supertanker off the Iranian coast, while its ground forces beat back an Iranian offensive in a pre-dawn battle in the central sector of the Gulf war front.

Iraq also said today it had fired a missile at Tehran in retaliation for Iranian shelling of civilian areas in its northeastern province.

A military spokesman said the missile was launched at 9.11 pm (1811 GMT). No more missiles would be fired if Iran halted the shelling, he said.

### Wounded

The military spokesman said Iranian shelling had so far killed 21 people and wounded 79 in the towns of Halabja and Darbandikhan, 240 km (150 miles) northeast of Baghdad.

The missile was fired at Tehran two days after the two sides agreed an informal truce in their two-week war of the cities in

which hundreds of people were killed in missile and bomb attacks on population centres.

The Iraqi spokesman said Iran broke one of Iraq's conditions for halting the barrage by attacking civilian areas. "Our retaliation will spare no nest of the criminals."

### Message

"The Iranian rulers who were forced to stop the war of the cities after being taught very bitter lessons, thought they would spare their capital from Iraqi attacks and then resume shelling Iraqi border towns," the spokesman said.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein visited the northern sector of the Gulf war front after the shelling began, according to Baghdad television.

The official Iraqi news agency said Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz sent a message to Perez de Cuellar saying Iraq would commit itself to the unofficial truce if Iran ceased attacks on residential areas.

The official Iraqi news agency reported more than 1,000 Iranians were killed in a 3 1/2-hour battle last night.

It said two Iranian brigades, backed by tanks and artillery, were involved in the thrust.

"Infantry units of Iraq's 2nd Army corps repulsed the thrust, exterminating the bulk of the force. More than 1,000 Iranians were killed and the others were forced to retreat," the agency quoted an unnamed spokesman as saying.

### Attacks

It did not say where exactly the battle took place, but judging from the size of the force, the attack did not appear to signal the beginning of Iran's long-awaited major offensive.

Also, the large-scale attack is expected to be launched in the southern sector of the 733-mile (1,180-kilometre) front, around Basra, Iraq's second-largest city and its only outlet to the Gulf.

Iraq said it launched new

ground attacks early today.

In a separate dispatch, INA, the Iraqi news agency, quoted a military spokesman as saying Iraqi planes "dealt an accurate and effective blow to a very large maritime target," a reference to a supertanker, off the Iranian coast during the night.

It did not give the exact time of the raid, the fourth such claim in five days.

"Iraq will soon cut off Iran's economic lifeline and prevent it from employing oil revenues to finance and prolong the aggression on Iraq," the military spokesman said of the reported ship attack.

Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hosseini Mousavi said today the Iraqi air attacks failed in their objective of making Iran accept a UN ceasefire resolution because of "dauntless resistance" by Iranians.

Mousavi, quoted by IRNA, said the building of air raid shelters would continue to turn the country "into a strong fortress against any enemy aggression."

## Kuwait raps US for closing PLO mission

THE Kuwait Council of Ministers yesterday denounced the decision taken by the United States to close the PLO office in New York at a time when the popular uprising in occupied Palestine is gaining support and recognition worldwide and Israel is being widely condemned for its repressive measures.

The United States' decision contradicts the commitments of the host country agreement and challenges the feelings of the entire Arab nation. Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Rashed said after the weekly meeting of the cabinet.

He said the Council of Ministers reviewed developments on the political arena and the latest reports on development in the Gulf and Arab region and the efforts exerted at the Arab and international levels to end the Iraq-Iran war and support the popular uprising in the occupied territories.

The Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) also strongly denounced the US decision to close down the PLO UN mission.

## US officials criticised for meeting Arafat



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (left) welcomes the UAE President, Sheikh Zayed, in Cairo. (Reuter wirephoto)

### Ground-breaking visit

## Zayed arrives in Cairo for talks on Arab unity

CAIRO, March 13. (Agencies): United Arab Emirates (UAE) President, Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, arrived in Cairo today on his first visit in nearly a decade, for talks aimed at "uniting" Arab ranks.

Sheikh Zayed, the first Arab leader to visit Egypt since most Arab states resumed relations with Cairo four months ago, was welcomed by President Mubarak in a red carpet ceremony.

The secret, two-hour meeting, which took place in Baghdad, Iraq, became publicly known last week. It was arranged by the National Council on US-Arab relations, the group that paid for the congressional aides' trip to Iraq Jan 11-19.

The meeting, described as an open exchange between Arafat and the aides, was held shortly after Congress passed legislation shutting down two PLO offices in the United States on the grounds they represented a terrorist organisation.

"You will know whatever decision is made."

"We have to inform them of our decision by March 15," Junaid told a meeting earlier in the day in Quetta, capital of Baluchistan province bordering Afghanistan and Iran.

The meeting was the latest in a series of consultations by the prime minister with politicians, parliamentarians and other groups to arrive at a national consensus on the issue.

The main guerrilla alliance fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan government met to select a new leader today amid reports the rebels may send a delegation to Geneva.

Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev

said at least one third of the 1,000 Palestinians in the Israeli police force in occupied areas had pledged to resign. Police sources said the figure was nearer half.

"The people will receive less police service. The thieves will celebrate. The traffic offenders will celebrate. That's what it means," Bar-Lev told reporters.

The officers resigned in response to an appeal by the leadership of the uprising in the West Bank and occupied Gaza Strip, home to 1.5 million Palestinians.

Arab spokesmen said they believed many more resignations would follow among the 20,000 Palestinian public sector workers in occupied areas who receive salaries from Israel. Some 25 thousand employees quit in Gaza today, they said.

Shultz asked regional leaders to respond by mid-March to his proposals, which have already been rejected by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his Likud Party. Shamir, who

arrives in Washington tomorrow, has said he will tell President Reagan he opposes the US initiative.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and his Labour Party have welcomed the initiative.

Tens of thousands of Israelis at a rally in Tel Aviv's Main Square appealed to Shamir yesterday to say yes to a US peace initiative.

Tzaly Reshef, one of the Peace Now activists who organised the demonstration, estimated the crowd at 100,000.

"One hundred thousand people last night in this square sent a clear message to Prime Minister Shamir: You can't say no to peace plans in our name," Reshef told the crowd.

**Victim**

In the occupied territories another Palestinian died of gunshot wounds, raising the death toll to at least 91 in 13 weeks.

The latest Arab victim, 22-year-old Yousef Ibrahim Suleiman, was shot in the head last week in the village of Bidu, near Ramallah in the occupied West Bank, military and Palestinian sources said. He died overnight in hospital.

The diplomats said the closure would further complicate efforts by the Reagan administration to sell its plan in the face of opposing demands by Israeli right-wingers and radical Arab states.

But analysts noted that no Arab state had rejected Washington's efforts outright.

**Respond**

"Syria studied the Shultz plan and we found it, in its present form, unacceptable to us or to any other Arab party... we hope the US administration will submit clearer proposals to solve the Middle East crisis," Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al-Shara said yesterday.

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## INTERNATIONAL

Stop Bush, Dole appeals on TV

# Jackson wins in South Carolina

WASHINGTON, March 13, (Agencies): Jesse Jackson easily won the Democratic caucuses in his native South Carolina, while Sen. Bob Dole went on Illinois television last night to plead for Republican votes in his bid for the presidential nomination.

Dole appealed directly to voters to stop Vice-President George Bush from clinching the Republican nomination in Tuesday's Illinois primary.

Jackson took a commanding lead in the caucuses and maintained a better than 2-1 margin over the uncommitted, who represented the second-largest bloc of delegates being elected to county conventions in South Carolina.

With 59 per cent of the precincts reporting, Jackson won 4,796 county convention delegates for 33 per cent, while the uncommitted trailed with 1,813 delegates

for 20 per cent. Tennessee Sen. Albert Gore was in third place with 18 per cent and other candidates were far behind.

"I know that I'm the underdog in this race ... I'm not stubborn but I don't give up easily," the Kansas senator Dole said in a nationally televised speech.

A new opinion poll showed Dole likely to lose in Illinois as he did in last week's southern primaries, where Bush shut him out. Analysts said Bush's ties to President Reagan were the determining factor.

"I've been carrying the ball for President Reagan for seven years," said Dole, the senate Republican leader. "Mayhe someone else got the credit. I'm the best candidate. I can win in November."

He said many opinion polls have shown he is more electable

than Bush. But a Newsweek survey released yesterday showed Bush as leading all the Democratic contenders.

A Chicago Tribune poll published in today's editions also said Bush was far ahead of Dole in Illinois while home state Sen. Paul Simon was leading the Democratic field, followed closely by Jackson.

The newspaper also endorsed Gore in the Democratic contest, passing over native Simon and Jackson, who has made Illinois his adoptive home state.

"I dare George Bush to debate Bob Dole," Dole told a news conference earlier yesterday. In originating his broadcast from Knox College in Galesburg, he had picked the time and site to conform to Bush's appearance at the same location, he said.

The South Carolina caucuses are the first step in a process to select national convention delegates from that state. Voters yesterday selected delegates to the county conventions, which in turn select delegates to the state convention.

## Prince Edward plans to marry a Catholic

LONDON, March 13, (AP): Prince Edward, the youngest son of Queen Elizabeth II, plans to marry the 22-year-old daughter of a Belgian haroness, a newspaper reported today.

The People, a weekly London tabloid, said the 24-year-old prince has proposed to Georgia May, whose mother, Catherine, was born a baroness in the Belgian family Van Den Branden de Reeth.

Edward would have to give up his rights as fifth in line to the British throne if he married Miss May, a Roman Catholic, the newspaper said.

Britain's 1701 Act of Settlement laid down that only Protestants could be British monarchs.

The newspaper said the couple are awaiting the Queen's permission to be formally engaged.

The newspaper quoted Miss May's jilted boyfriend, New Zealand yachtsman Ed Danby, as saying she told him of the engagement plan in a telephone call last week.

"Edward fought tooth and nail to break up Georgia and myself," Danby, 26, was quoted as saying. "Georgia told me Edward is over the moon."

The Prince met Miss May at a yachting regatta in Cowes in southern England last August, the newspaper said. They have since arranged secret dates at theatres and concerts, arriving separately to avoid media attention, it said.

## India rejects truce call from Tigers

NEW DELHI, March 13, (Agencies): The government has rejected the latest call for a ceasefire in Sri Lanka by Tamil rebel leader Velupillai Prabhakaran, an Indian diplomat said today.

The diplomat, who spoke on condition he not be named, said the appeal released yesterday in the southern Indian city of Madras was one "of a series of communications we've received from time to time."

But he said Prabhakaran's actions in Sri Lanka do not match his words.

**Attack**

The diplomat said that Prabhakaran's Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the largest of the rebel groups operating in Sri Lanka, continue to attack rival Tamil militants.

The diplomat also said the Tigers have refused to surrender their weapons, as called for in an Indian-brokered peace accord signed last July and aimed at ending nearly five years of Tamil guerrilla warfare.

Tamil militants are seeking an independent homeland in northern and eastern Sri Lanka.

In the communique made public in Madras, Prabhakaran renewed the Tigers' appeal for a ceasefire and negotiations to end the conflict. India has insisted that the Tigers lay down their arms before talks are held.

Prabhakaran said he was sceptical the Sri Lankan Sinhalese majority would abide by the peace accord.

Meanwhile, the death toll from a bus attack last Friday rose to 20 from 17, police said today.

In a separate incident, two Sri Lankan soldiers were shot dead by Tamil rebels and their vehicle torched in northwestern Mannar yesterday, military officials said.

At Vavuniya in the North, Indian troops sealed off the farming village of Pandarikulam and detained 15 men during a search for rebels today.

**Minehunters**

ANKARA, March 13, (Reuters): Turkey plans to invite foreign bids for joint production of mine hunting vessels under a programme to modernise its Navy, military sources said today.

Foreign firms with mine hunting technology are likely to be invited to bid for the project in the next few months.

Turkey has a total of 34 coastal and inshore minesweepers built by mine hunters.

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Prabhakaran

## 11 dead in Punjab violence

AMRITSAR, March 13, (Reuters): Sikh extremists abducted two communists activists from their home near the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, took them to the house of a village headman and murdered all three in cold blood, police said today.

The Communist Party of India (Marxist) members, identified as Chanchal and Iqbal Singh, died on the spot. The headman, Gurjinder Singh, died later in hospital.

Police said the six killers escaped.

In Amritsar itself, rarely a target for gunmen fighting for a separate Sikh state, three Sikhs opened fire on a group of Hindus playing cards in a market.

**Injured**

Two Hindus were killed and five injured, three critically.

A head constable and two villagers—a Sikh and a Hindu—were also killed in other parts of Punjab, police said.

More than 350 people have died in Sikh extremist violence this year, raising expectations New Delhi will announce a state of emergency in the north-western state bordering Pakistan.

Two extremists died in other incidents early today. In one, police raided a farmhouse outside Amritsar and shot dead one of four Sikh suspects sheltering there.

In the other incident, a Sikh was beaten to death by angry villagers after he and another man tried to take over a headman's house in Faridkot district.

The accomplice escaped.

**Arrested**

"We guess the total number of demonstrators at 5,000 people and almost 1,200 arrested," Energy Department spokesman Chris West said.

The arrested protesters were confined to a 28,000-square-foot (2,600-square-metre) linked

compound until a fleet of two dozen, 45-passenger buses arrived to transport them to the Tonopah, Nevada, jail where they presumably will be released.

"All of the people are going to Tonopah and they will not get a ride back to town on us," West said. Tonopah is located in central Nevada about 300 miles (480 km) northwest of Las Vegas.

The district attorney adopted a policy in April 1987 of not spending money or time to prosecute the hundreds of demonstrators cited for deliberately trespassing onto the test site.

Yesterday's protest marked the beginning of a 10-day non-violent action labelled "reclaim the test site." Jesse Cocks of American Peace Test said at least 30 peace organisations from across the country supported the protest.

"There were no reports of violence," West said.

Demonstrators sang chanted, carried anti-nuclear weapons banners, listened to speeches, lit a flame symbolic of the Hiroshima peace flame and then deliberately submitted to arrest

beginning at 1 pm.

About 75 counter-demonstrators lined one side of the roadway leading into the Rhode Island-sized test site as anti-nuclear demonstrators walked toward a cattle guard where 300 sheriff's deputies, Nevada highway patrolmen and private security guards waited with plastic handcuffs.

The prince had already been serving a seven-year term for obstructing justice. Dlamini was ousted in 1986 by Swaziland's present monarch, King Mswati.

**Punished**

A group of women carried bronze umbrellas punched with holes and painted with the letters SDI for Strategic Defence Initiative, President Reagan's proposed space-based defence system.

The Nevada test site 65 miles (105 km) northwest of Las Vegas, the country's nuclear weapons testing centre, has been targeted by numerous anti-nuclear demonstrators for the past several years. The largest previous protest took place last May and involved an estimated 3,000 people.

**Bearden dies**

NEW YORK, March 13, (Reuters): Romare Bearden, a black abstract painter and collage artist who received a presidential award last year, died early yesterday at New York hospital, his manager said.

Bearden, who was 75, entered hospital six weeks ago with a stroke but he also had cancer, said June Kelly, Bearden's agent for the past 13 years.

"He was active right up until he went to the hospital. He just had a show that opened in November at the Thomas Segal Gallery in Boston," said Kelly.

**Official visit**

ATHENS, March 13, (Reuters): New Greek-Cypriot President George Vassiliou arrived in Athens today for a five-day official visit marking his formal debut since he was elected last month.

Vassiliou will hold talks tomorrow with Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou on the problem of Cyprus, where Turkish troops moved into the northern third of the island following a Greek-backed coup in Nicosia in 1974.

**Pollution**

LONDON, March 13, (AP): Scientists have determined that pollution along Britain's coastline is causing female whales to acquire male characteristics, making it impossible for them to reproduce, a newspaper reported today.

**Road accident**

ANKARA, March 13, (Reuters): Thirteen people were killed and 35 injured today when a bus and a lorry collided on the main Turkish highway between Ankara and Konya to the south, the Anatolian news agency said.

**Longest undersea tunnel opened**

TOKYO, March 13, (Kuna): Amid fanfare and festivities on a large scale, Seikan tunnel, the world's longest undersea passage, was opened this morning to link the main island of Honshu and the northern island of Hokkaido, considered an engineering feat.

Two opening ceremonies were held on both ends of the 54-kilometre tunnel with 2,000 guests attending and thousands of people who spent last night waiting for their turn to take the first trains to run and cars to pass through the undersea passage.

It took 24 years of excavation and construction, resulting in increasing Japan's land space by more than 180,000 square metres at a cost of an estimated \$54 billion, engineers explained.

Because of the new tunnel for trains and vehicles, the Seikan ferryboat service was abolished today as a sea link between the two islands after a run of 80 years.



Security guards at the top-secret Nevada test site carry away an anti-nuclear protester who trespassed into the facility. (Reuters wirephoto)

## 1,200 detained in Nevada anti-nuclear protest march

MERCURY, Nevada, March 13, (UPI): Nearly 1,200 people were arrested today in one of the largest anti-nuclear demonstrations ever staged at the US nuclear testing centre, an Energy Department spokesman said.

Activist-Author Daniel Ellsberg, actress Teri Garr, actor Robert Blake, radio personality Casey Kasem and the Rev. William Sloan Coffin, President of the Sane-freeze peace organisation were among those cited for misdemeanor trespassing.

Energy Department observers and American Peace Test organisers estimated that 5,000 people took part in the protest, which started with a rally and climaxed with the arrest of more than a thousand people who deliberately trespassed onto the secret Nevada test site.

Yesterday's protest marked the beginning of a 10-day non-violent action labelled "reclaim the test site." Jesse Cocks of American Peace Test said at least 30 peace organisations from across the country supported the protest.

"There were no reports of violence," West said.

Demonstrators sang chanted, carried anti-nuclear weapons banners, listened to speeches, lit a flame symbolic of the Hiroshima peace flame and then deliberately submitted to arrest

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**Uncovered**

Officials of the South African company said the white diamond, dubbed "The Big Rock," was found at a mine near Pretoria in July 1986, but its discovery was kept secret to all but a handful of De Beers executives.

De Beers' chairman Julian Thompson announced the find at the firm's 100th anniversary banquet in Kimberly on Friday

**Mosquitoes get involved in politics**

DHAKA, March 13, (Reuters): Even mosquitoes have gotten involved in the current political turmoil in Bangladesh.

Retired Colonel Abdul Malek, administrator of the Dhaka Municipal Corporation, said last week that the malaria-carrying insects had increased tenfold in the capital since last November.

He blamed the increase on the opposition-led campaign of strikes aimed at toppling

President Hossain Mohammad Ershad. The strikes halted routine spraying, he said.

Opposition leaders responded by accusing Malek of misappropriating funds allocated for destroying mosquitoes.

A drive against the insects was launched in February after Dhaka residents staged noisy demonstrations demanding quick action to stamp out mosquitoes.

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## KUWAIT

### Overseas telephone calls

# Magnetic cards will be available in late April

By Jindrakta Porter

KUWAIT'S Ministry of Communications is to introduce in late April a new international public telephone service which relies on the use of magnetic cards for payment, following an experimental stage which was so successful that the ministry ran out of the special cards.

The new service will be of particular benefit to visiting businessmen and expatriates who are not on the phone but who wish to make overseas telephone calls, said Fadhel Abou Al Hasan, the director of marketing and services at the ministry. The trial period to test the public response to the system designed by a Swiss company began in May last year.

when the ministry acquired 10,000 cards and installed two special sets at the telecommunications centre in Kuwait City. By the beginning of this year all the cards had been sold.

#### 50,000 cards

By the end of April the ministry will install 14 more sets in all the telecommunications centres in Kuwait and in the airport transit lounge and 50,000 cards will be available for sale. The cards are priced at KD10, KD5 and KD3. They will be valid for calls to countries with the direct dialling facility.

Abou Al Hasan said one can dial numbers directly in most countries of the world. There is no limit as to the number of cards an individual is allowed to

acquire. But once the card is lost, warns Abou Al Hasan, no refund will be available. He pointed out that more than one card can be used to complete a long distance call without interruption.

Commenting on the complaints from customers who claim that they have been charged for international calls that have not been answered, Abou Al Hasan said the ministry doubts the veracity of such claims. He said some of these claims have been investigated but the complaints were unable to prove their claims. He ruled out the possibility that the ministry's computers were faulty registering the calls that did not take place.

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# 5,000 university students are facing suspension

MORE than 5,000 students who were admitted to Kuwait University during 1986 and 1987 are threatened with suspension, a number of students claimed.

They told a local newspaper, that most of the 5,000 students had already received their first, second, third or final caution, in accordance with a new university examination charter that was put into effect at the start of the 1986-87 academic year.

The implementation began after an academic committee made a study of the performance

of students and recommended stricter examination regulations as a way of improving the academic level at the university.

Students claimed that the new charter was not suitable and would not help to improve the academic standard.

#### Probation

They also claimed it was a way of dismissing most of the students.

One student, Thuhaiman Al Ajmi, said that half the students admitted in 1986 were already on the probation list and the other

half would go on the list very soon because of the difficult conditions imposed by the charter. He said the charter did not recognise that external situations could affect a student's performance.

The newspaper said that out of a single student from those interviewed had praised the charter. All had criticised it and called on the university administration to review the charter as soon as possible because it would certainly lead to the suspension of too many students.

Relations between the family and the maid were reported

"good" by 82.6 per cent of those surveyed, while 74.7 of the children questioned said they thought the maid got along well with them because of her leniency and willingness to let them have their own way.

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## KUWAIT ... GULF

### Institute under fire for poor management

## United Indian School tries to spruce up image

By Fathima Ahmed

THE appointment of a new principal may not help to stem the rot at the United Indian School (UIS), Abbasiya, some members of the Indian community in Kuwait have said. They also do not welcome the promotion of the school's principal as its director.

The administrative changes at the UIS were made to spruce up the image of the school, which in recent months came under fire for poor management and an inadequate standard of education.

But UIS' sponsor Sulaiman Kalandar strongly rejected the allegations and defended the appointment of the new principal as a step forward to uplift the image of the school.

#### Discipline

"I will do everything in my power to provide the best education for the children at my school," he said in a recent interview.

The school has come under fire for allegedly "selling visas"; nepotism; favouritism; appointing inexperienced teachers and poor teaching standards... The charges were made by several parents, teachers and some members of the Indian community.

Critics of the school allege that poor management has "affected the behaviour of the children and many parents are threatening to shift their children to other schools."

#### Dismissed

"If we were running a business, as some say, then we would take advantage of the opportunity to introduce two shifts at the school. We have the permission. But we don't want to do that," explains Kalandar.

Recently, some alleged irregularities were revealed by teachers, who were fired after serving the school for between eight months and two years.

Last year, one teacher was dismissed after she allegedly refused to give "good grades" to a child whose father is a school board member. She had worked for 19 months.

The teacher was given a termination letter in March last year. She was told "the management was not happy with her work." She did not accept the letter. She had taught at the school for 19 months. "Nineteen months is a long time. They can't say I was inexperienced," she asserts. As she was recruited locally, she was never given a copy of her employment contract. "Contracts are not given to teachers," she claims.

#### Leave salary

After she was sacked, she approached the sponsor and the board members, who promised to look into her case. In July she was given her settlement. The cheques bounced.

"I did not go to court or the police station because I was promised by the board members that I would be taken back." In October 1987 she contacted them again and was told she could go

Honda Motors Co., Ltd. announces Honda F-1 racing activities for 1988 season.

### Honda's world champion line-up for 1988

The 1988 Formula 1 Grand Prix season will see Honda engines being used by drivers who, between them, have won five of the last seven World Championship titles.

The Honda Marlboro McLaren team will continue to have the services of Alain Prost, World Champion in 1985 and 1986, who is now partnered by Brazil's Ayrton Senna. Reigning world champion Nelson Piquet, who also won the title in 1981 and 1983, will lead Camel Team Lotus-Honda supported by Satoru Nakajima of Japan who will be starting his second season on Formula 1 racing.

Changes to the F-1 regulations this year impose reductions on both turbocharger boost pressure, down from 4 bar to 2.5 bar and maximum fuel capacity, down from 195 litres to 150. To meet these regulations, Honda engineers have designed a completely new V6 turbo engine designated the RA-168E.

This engine naturally draws on the experience gained whilst developing the V6 unit used by the Williams Team to win the Constructor's Championship in 1986 and 1987.

Honda's engineers believe that this is the most efficient unit yet produced by them, particularly in the area of fuel efficiency and drivability.

Meanwhile research will be continuing into the development of a 3.5 litre naturally aspirated engine for 1989 when turbocharging will no longer be permitted. The exact configuration of this new engine has not yet been decided.

Responsibilities for 1988 F-1 season will be divided as follows: Senior personnel involved in the 1988 F-1 racing programme will work under the direction of Mr. Takefumi Hiramatsu, Managing Director of Honda R & D.

Mr. Osamu Goto will be F-1 Project Leader, in charge of the development and production of the engines, primarily based in Japan.

Mr. Utaka Otoke will be the Team Manager at the races.

Mr. Yoshinobu Noguchi will be the Public Relations and Liaison Officer for the F-1 Team.

Specifications of the 1988 Honda F-1 engine to be raced in Brazil are expected to be as follows:

#### 1988 Honda F-1 Racing Engine

Name	Honda RA-168E
Type	Liquid cooled 8V-6 DOHC 4 Valves/Cylinder
Displacement	1.5 litres
Ignition	C.D.I.
Clutch Type	Dry multi-plate
Fuel feed	Honda electronic fuel injection
Turbo configuration	Twin turbo
Max.power	Over 600PS.



Kalandar: rejects charges

Despite charges and allegations there is a rush for seats at the school mainly due to a large number of expatriates from the sub-continent living in the vicinity in such areas as Hassawi, Abbasiya and Farwaniya. Another advantage is that the school has only one shift in the mornings.

"Our children don't learn much but we send them there because they can be home in the afternoon," said one parent. Other schools in the area offer two shifts — mornings for girls and evening for boys. Most parents prefer morning shift school for younger children. And as such there has been a rush to register children at the school.

The school was set up in 1985 by a group of Indian businessmen. In just over two years the number of students grew from under 65 in 1985 to about 600 this year, showing the need for such an institution in Abbasiya, where the school is located. The majority of the students are Indians. Approximately 30 per cent are Bangladeshis.

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## INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

**Bombay films afflicted with dacoit mania**

By Fathima Ahmed

DACOIT mania is back in films. The latest arrival is *Khoon Bahaa Ganga Mein*, a misnomer, which should have been called "Khoon Bahaya Ganga Ne." Blood feuds are common ingredients for a so-called smashing, blood-curdling film. The vendetta theme has been exploited so often that it has lost its appeal. Filmmakers, unconcerned about such matters, indulge in feeding sages with a vengeance: each filmmaker tries to outsmart the other by introducing the bloodiest motif of the year.

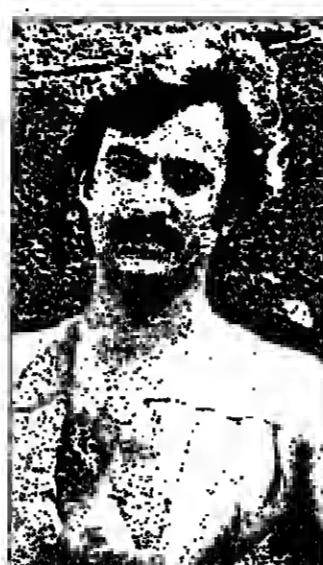
Scriptwriters seem to lift entire events from an earlier film, rearrange sequences that are invariably out of context, insert a few songs and dances, bring out the bunch of horsemen, add garbled dialogue, change a few lines and directors get down to the task of casting. This time, it is Amrita Singh's turn to play the role of an outlaw, all set to start the blood feud in *Khoon Bahaa Ganga Mein*.

The excuse for the bloody saga, invariably, is the death of one or both parents. Bindiya's parents are killed by the lustful landlord, who rapes the mother in front of Bindiya, who was about eight at the time. The trauma multiplies after Bindiya witnesses the death of a couple who give her shelter. The couple commit suicide after they fail to provide dowry for their only daughter. Bindiya, who is pursued by the police for being the sole witness of two murders, escapes to the hills, where she is rescued by Himalaya Khan (Suresh Oberoi). Himalaya is a kind-hearted outlaw. "I was named Himalaya. I'll call you Ganga." Thus, Ganga is born and is brought up among tough men.

Fifteen years later, Ganga's revenge saga begins. She goes on a killing spree. But there is a slight problem—romance between Bindiya and Raju, the lovers are separated in childhood and meet later, on the opposite side of the fence as an



Amrita Singh



Suresh Oberoi



Arun Govil and Deepa Sahi star in Shubh Chintak

outlaw and a policeman. This is an appropriate time to inject the rather stilted theme of love vs duty; garbled dialogue and moony romance on hilltops as the outlaws keep vigil. Bad

camerawork makes the film seem dated.

It's difficult to take the superficial characters seriously. At one point, Ganga is all fire and fury. In the next sequence she melts in the arms of Raju. And as quickly, she changes colour.

Amrita Singh tries to define the character of Ganga, inspired by the notorious Phoolan Devi, who has been reduced to a caricature in this particular film. Due to persistent inconsistencies, it is hard for Amrita to do justice to a contrived character who is always out of tune. The blue-eyed boy of Nari Hira films, Aditya Pancholi, makes his disastrous debut on the big screen. As Raju, Pancholi can only manage a few badly mouthed lines and a sloppy attempt at playing a policeman.

Filmmakers are dishing out such stale fare that they may spell their own doom.

*Khoon Bahaa Ganga Mein* is a poor show but *Zindagi Jeene Ke Liye* (Life is for living) is so depressing that it may put you off living. Raakhee and Suresh Oberoi, two talented performers are wasted in the poorly scripted movie.

It is about Prisoner No. 55 Satyen (Suresh Oberoi) who has murdered two people and is

now in hospital for an operation. Everyone in the ward treats him like an outcast except an eight-year-old child.

The theme offered plenty of scope to develop a tender, loving relationship between the prisoner and the child. Instead, the scriptwriter misses the point, preferring to concentrate on songs and meaningless banter. The essence of the film, it seems, is that a killer must be forgiven if he has a justifiable reason for committing the crime: No. 55 killed his wife and her lover—a crime of passion. *Zindagi ...* suffers from poor direction, sloppy camerawork and dazed performers sleep-walking throughout the film. A poor quality print doesn't improve matters. And if you are brave enough to confront *Zindagi*, it may just stun you.

Another film which fails due to similar faults is *Shubh Chintak*, starring Arun ('Ram') Govil, Deepa ('Sita') Sahi and Parikshat Sahni. It is about marital harmony. The tenuous relationship between man and wife is made shaky by the introduction of the so-called dramatic plot. The perfectly happy couple play a practical joke that backfires. Viewers have the last laugh as the director explores "man's suspicious nature" and the woman's pre-marital affairs. The moral of the tale: if there's a problem in a marriage, seek help from the Shubh Chintak (marriage counsellor). If you want to do yourself an injustice, watch the movie.

The above films are by courtesy of Athar Video, Main St., Farwaniya. Tel: 4720900.

**BBC HIGHLIGHTS**

Why should this happen to me?

"It's not fair!" is one of the earliest cries of a child and life doesn't seem to get any easier as we grow up. Keith Hindell talks to people whose lives have been radically changed by ill-fortune. This four-part series looks at how individuals cope with major upsets and how human resilience can be aided by faith. (March 13, 1915 hrs; rep. March 14, 1030 hrs; March 17, 0630 hrs; 19.91m)

## Education today

John Turtle, who presents Education Today, charts a path through education and training, with practical advice, reports from schools, universities, polytechnics and professional bodies in Britain and overseas. There's also news of the latest research and books for teachers and trainers. (March 13, 1245 hrs; March 16, 1815 hrs; March 18, 0630 hrs; 19.91m; 227 MW)

The story of English: Regional identity

'Dynamic,' 'opportunity' and 'cost-effective': all useful words if you want to get a job in management these days so make sure you weave them into your interview. David Crystal and Tom McArthur continue their survey of the English language by looking at the subtle ways in which we use it. (March 16, 2015 hrs; March 17, 2122 hrs; 212 MW; 16.59 m).

Waha in the Salhiya Complex is one of the convenient meeting places in town for downtown office workers and shoppers.

## SPORTS

Sports Festival for Children

A sports festival for Bangladeshi children will be held on April 8. For details contact 4840759; 4710206; 5716586. All Bangladeshi children are welcome.

## Kuwait Rally

The 1988 Kuwait International Rally will be held on March 17 and 18. The rally starts on Thursday (March 17) at 1 pm from the SAS Hotel carport, and the first night's action will be in the Jabra/Doha areas. Main Control will be at Entertainment City, and the cars can be seen there between 4.30 pm and 6 pm. The cars return to SAS at 10 pm, and the rally resumes at 9 am the next morning. Stages will be in the Maqwa and Sulaihiya areas and the cars can be seen at Main Control from 12.30 pm. The rally finish is at the SAS Hotel at 5.15 pm.

## Cricket Match

The BA Speedbird Trophy Cricket match between teams representing Great Britain and India will take place on March 15 at the KOC, Ahmadi, new ground. Play commences at 9.30 am. All are welcome.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

- 2.15. Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News Via Satellite
- 3.30 Ibtal Al Ma'laeb: cartoon serial
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.20 Ghadab Al Sahra: Arabic serial, starring Abdul Rahman AlRish, Suhar Rami, Talhati Hamdi
- 5.30 Mama Anisa and Children
- 6.00 Cultural Film
- 6.45 News Summary
- 7.30 A special programme on Isra' Wal Meraj, live broadcast from Grand Mosque, Kuwait

- 8.30 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Suraq Al Simt: daily Arabic serial, featuring San Jamil, Hamdi Ghait, Anwar Ismail, Mimi Jamali

- 11.30 Al Sharahiyah: Arabic Feature Film. Starring: Farid Shawki, Afaf Shuaib, Mustafa Fahmi, Naeema Al Saghir. An employee is blamed for theft in an office and faces many difficulties before the real thief is found.

- 11.45 News Summary
- 11.50 World News Via Satellite

- 12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown



The Law and Harry MacGraw will be shown at 8.40 pm on KTV 2

## KTV 2

- 2.30 Opening and recitation from the Holy Quran
- 2.45 Cartoon serial
- 3.10 Kuwait TV message on the 9th Gulf Football Championship
- 4.10 Live telecast of Oman Vs. Kuwait football match
- 6.05 Cartoon serial
- 6.10 Yogis Treasure Hunt: cartoons
- 6.30 The Animal Express: Tonight's episode examines the life of penguins in captivity.
- 7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world news, presented by KTV.
- 7.30 Don't Wait Up: comedy about a Brit-

ish family.

8.00 News in English

8.40 The Law and Harry MacGraw. "Angela's Secret." Eleanor is against accepting a criminal's case; MacGraw is convinced the man is innocent.

9.30 Horizon: tonight's episode examines the history of architecture from the time of the Egyptians to the present day.

10.30 Made-for-TV Movie: "Chase." Starring: Jennifer Daniels and Robert Woods.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

## RADIO PROGRAMMES

## Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Behtereen Qaul
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Islamiyat: Daar-e-Hazir
- 2000 News
- 2020 Songs
- 2400 Hamare Mehmaan
- 2100 Closedown

## BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio News
- 30 Religious Service
- 0100 News Summary followed by Lloyd George Knew My Father, Part 2; 14th The Reluctant Dictator—Part 2; 28th The Kingfisher—Part 1
- 45 Virtuous
- 0200 World News
- 09 Commentary
- 15 Pebbles' Choice
- 30 Science in Action
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Good Books
- 30 anything Goes
- 0400 Newsdesk
- 30 Augustus Carp Esq By Himself

## FM Services

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1400 Songs and Music
- 1300 Easy Listening
- 1330 News
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1430 Easy Listening
- 1700 Latin American Hour
- 1800 Pop
- 1900 Heller Sketcher
- 2000 Pop
- 2130 News

## NIGHT CHEMIST

- Kuwait
- Al Ajeel Pharmacy
- Adnan Abdul Aziz Bldg., Palestine St., Mubarakiya
- Al Ameen Pharmacy
- Echbani Complex, Jaber Al Mubarak St.
- Hawalli and Nigra
- Al Zenali Pharmacy
- Bin Khaldoon St.
- Salmaia and Rumaiithya
- Al Sama Pharmacy
- Baghdad St.
- Fahabeel and Almadi
- Al Imaan Pharmacy
- Makkah St., F'heel
- Jeeb Al Shiyookh
- Al Nimran Pharmacy
- Opp. Secondary School

- Jahra
- Al Zahra Pharmacy
- New Souk

## PRAYERS

- |         |         |
|---------|---------|
| Fajr    | 4.39 am |
| Zuhar   | 11.57   |
| Asr     | 3.22 pm |
| Maghreb | 5.56    |
| Isha    | 7.12    |

## CINEMA TODAY

- Al Andalees
- Closed
- Al Salmiya
- Arabic play
- Al Hawra
- Tough Guys
- Starring: Kirk Douglas, Burt Lancaster
- Drive-In
- Shahab Fi Al Jaheem
- (Arabic)
- Starring: Mamdouh Abdul Alim, Mirvat Ameren
- Al Firdous
- Maahab Bajra Sajna (Hindi)
- Starring: Jeetendra, Rekha, Mousumi

- Fahabeel Open-Air Anionce (Hindi)
- Al Fahabeel Iripatham Nootandu (Malayalam)
- Al Jaha Scandalous
- Granada Tarzan Finds a Son
- Sulaiibkhat White Appache
- Al Jeeb Punar Milan (Bengali)
- Ahmed Drive-In Avataar (Hindi)

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## EDITORIALS

**ARAB TIMES**  
Thought for today

BAD laws are the worst sort of tyranny — Edmund Burke, Irish-born statesman (1729-1797).

## McFarlane pleads guilty

**A mastermind of disastrous policy**

By David Nagy

**WASHINGTON**, (Reuters): Robert McFarlane emerged from the Iran-Contra scandal as an earnest man of mournful demeanour who launched a disastrous foreign policy and suffered suicidal remorse when it went wrong.

McFarlane, who pleaded guilty on Friday to four counts of misleading Congress in a deal with the Iran-Contra special prosecutor, was the White House National Security adviser who first floated the idea of selling arms to Iran.

That was in June 1985. A year-and-a-half later on Feb 9, 1987, with the cover stripped off the arms-sale operation and President Reagan sinking into the worst scandal of his career, McFarlane gulped an overdose of tranquilisers.

Saved by emergency hospital treatment, he later said he had attempted suicide in a moment of despair because he felt he had brought disgrace upon a president he revered.

"I thought the world would be a better place without me," McFarlane told one interviewer.

That bleak shuddering of guilt seemed in character for "bad" McFarlane, 50, a taciturn former Marine officer and foreign policy specialist who served as Reagan's chief National Security adviser from 1983 to 1985.

He became a familiar, pocky-faced face to the public last May as one of the first and longest-running witnesses at Congress's televised hearings to the sale of US arms to Iran and the shunting of profits to Nicaragua's Contra rebels.

In a sleepy baritone drawl, he defended his arms-sale concept as an effort to impress "moderates" in Tehran after years of US-Iranian hostilities.

Reagan approved the sales verbally before he legalised them by formal order and claimed the president specifically authorised a plan to pay \$2 million ransom for US hostages in Lebanon.

Reagan denied any illegal action in the affair and any knowledge of a hostage ransom attempt.

McFarlane also admitted he knew of US efforts to drum up private and foreign-government financing for the Contras at a time when Congress had banned official US aid.

He said he joined other White House aides in covering up Iran-Contra operations by using "some tortured language" to mislead Congress in testimony and helping to doctor an official

chronology of arms-sale decisions.

Some members of Congress suggested McFarlane was playing a self-serving martyr's role and couching his admissions of guilt in the broadest general terms.

But when Senator Paul Sarbanes asked him who he had been trying to protect in the cover-up efforts, he replied softly:

"Very likely myself, my reputation, my own record..."

In the end, McFarlane's role in the affair was obscured by those of the more glamorous Marine Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North, a National Security Council (NSC) aide, and Admiral John Poindexter, who succeeded McFarlane as NSC boss and presided over the most active phases of the Iran and Contra operations.

## Target

Those two are said to be the principal targets of the special prosecutor with whom McFarlane is now cooperating.

Robert Carl McFarlane was born on July 12, 1937, in Washington. His father was a Democratic Congressman from Texas.

He graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1959 and took a masters degree in strategic studies at the Institut des Hautes Etudes in Geneva, Switzerland.

After serving in Vietnam, he entered the foreign policy establishment on the staff of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Later, after leaving the Marine Corps, he became deputy to National Security Adviser William Clarkin in 1982.

The Iran arms-sale scandal had its genesis in August 1984 when McFarlane asked government agencies to reassess policy toward Iran. Relations had been severed and an arms embargo imposed as a result of the 1979-81 hostage crisis when 52 Americans were held in Iran.

In June, 1985, McFarlane put teeth in his plan by circulating a confidential proposal to sell arms to Iran.

Although Secretary of State George Shultz branded the idea "perverse" and then-Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger called it "absurd," McFarlane and North prevailed with Reagan.

According to Congress and a presidential inquiry panel, the operation fast degenerated into an effort to barter arms for Americans held hostage by Iranian groups in Lebanon.

McFarlane retained an active role in the Iran gambit even after he resigned his White House post in December, 1985.

## Goria resigns for the third time

**Dynamic image has crumbled**

By Alan Baldwin

**ROME**, (Reuters): Giovanni Goria, who resigned on Friday for the third time in less than eight months, took office as Italy's youngest prime minister since World War II but his fresh, dynamic image quickly crumbled.

Italy's President Cossiga resurrected Goria's government again last month on the tacit understanding that Goria would step down immediately after steering through parliament the 1988 budget, delayed more than two months by coalition squabbling.

It was approved on Thursday, and Goria had been widely expected to resign next week.

But government ministers said the reason for Goria's early resignation was a tough statement from his socialist coalition partners attacking the prime minister's decision to resume construction of a nuclear power station north of Rome.

Opposition parties and the socialists said the decision went beyond Goria's mandate.

Last July, Italy's media welcomed the unassuming Christian Democrat as a blaze of enthusiasm, dubbing him "Goria superstar."

But within a month, his smile was equated with that of a "bearded Dracula." As the weeks passed, his premature fall became a foregone conclusion and the government looked more and more accident-prone.

Cool, dark and with a courteous background which fitted well with the modern, affluent self-image which Italy has recently assumed, he was the surprise choice to form the country's 47th post-war government last July.

Goria swiftly put together a coalition of Christian Democrats, Socialists, Republicans, Social Democrats and Liberals.

Experience

A far cry from the wily and mostly elderly politicians who have dominated post-war Italy, Goria was seen by many parliamentarians as a naive technocrat and a "fall-guy" who lacked the experience to survive in Italy's ruthless politics.

He staked his personal political reputation on trying to prove the pundits wrong.

Goria, who studied economics, entered parliament in 1976 and has described himself as "an accountant turned politician."

He was appointed treasury minister in 1982 by then Premier Amintore Fanfani and served in four successive governments during a revival in which inflation plunged from 16 per cent when he took over to just over four per cent in June 1987.

Goria, born on July 30, 1943, in Asti, northwest Italy, is regarded within the Christian Democrat Party, Italy's biggest political group with 34 percent of votes, as a protege of leader Ciriaco de Mita.

He is married with two children.

## Who controls America's Middle East policy?

**Israeli lobby behind closure of PLO mission**

By Raphael Callis

**WASHINGTON**, (Kuwa): Even US officials admit that the legislation passed by the US Congress and enacted by the Justice Department on Friday to close the PLO observer mission at the United Nations sets a dangerous precedent and constitutes a damaging intrusion into the United Nations, conduct of its affairs and threatens the integrity and independence of the world body.

It is ironic that US Secretary of State George Shultz, reacting to the decision announced by the Justice Department, commented: "This is one of the dumbest things that Congress has done lately."

What Shultz is not saying publicly, however, is that he has been stabbed in the back by the pro-Israeli lobby in Washington, with whom he had reached a so-called "gentleman's agreement" at the peak of the legislative battle on Capitol Hill last fall when Congress was debating the question of closing PLO offices in the US.

## Close

According to the agreement reached between Shultz and Jewish leaders at a close door meeting at the time, the State Department agreed to move to close the Palestine Information Office (PIO) in Washington on condition that the pro-Israeli lobby, working through their supporters in Congress, abandoned their effort to close the PLO observer mission at the United Nations because of the complications—legal and political—that might arise as a result of such action.

Shultz thought he had an agreement, but as it turned out, he carried out his part of the bargain, closed the PLO office, and expected the issue to fade away. Instead, Israel's friends in Congress forgot about their part of the deal and succeeded in passing a bill calling for the closure of the observer mission at the United Nations.

As it is now, the controversy has grown into a battle between the United States and the United Nations as a whole. In a way, that serves the interest of the PLO, which has capitalised on the fact that 143 countries in the General Assembly have voted in favour of two resolutions which have embarrassed the US.

But what is being missed in the current debate is the less publicised fact as to who, in fact, controls and directs US foreign policy when it comes to the Middle East.

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Although Secretary of State George Shultz branded the idea "perverse" and then-Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger called it "absurd," McFarlane and North prevailed with Reagan.

According to Congress and a presidential inquiry panel, the operation fast degenerated into an effort to barter arms for Americans held hostage by Iranian groups in Lebanon.

McFarlane retained an active role in the Iran gambit even after he resigned his White House post in December, 1985.

Then Aipac called for strong

action against PLO activities in this country and around the globe.

A comparison of the bill that was passed into law by Congress on the PLO known as 1203 and entitled "Anti-Terrorism Act of 1987" uses the exact wordings of the final communiqué adopted by Aipac.

The PLO or its representatives have no place at the negotiation table. Aipac opposes pre-negotiations between the US and Arab parties which are by the PLO's own admission designed to achieve recognition of the PLO by the US.

"United States diplomacy should know how to circumvent the PLO, not seek ways to bring the PLO into negotiations through the back door," the statement emphasised.

## Negotiations

Aipac outlined the following principles that, it said, must be upheld by the US in its pursuit of peace:

● "There must be direct negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbours leading to peace treaties."

● "The US role should be that of facilitator of direct negotiations rather than participant in the negotiations."

● "The PLO should not be involved in negotiations. Instead, the US should encourage the promotion of alternative and constructive Palestinian representation."

● "An independent Palestinian state in Judea and Samaria and Gaza is unacceptable."

● "An international conference is an inappropriate forum for negotiations."

"Options for legal action against the PLO include closing the PLO office in Washington and New York, denying PLO access to the UN in New York, cutting funding for PLO activities at the United Nations, and convening a grand jury investigation into PLO activities."

Furthermore, as the Ambassador of the Arab League to the United Nations, Clovis Mak-



George Shultz

action against PLO activities in this country and around the globe.

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## Sponsors

It is not surprising, during an election year, that among the dozens of sponsors of the bill there were three presidential candidates — Senator Robert Dole, Paul Simon, and Jack Kemp.

Their hope was obviously to secure the support, approval, and membership contribution of Aipac to their campaigns.

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Furthermore, as the Ambassador of the Arab League to the United Nations, Clovis Mak-

soud, so rightfully pointed out in a speech at the United Nations General Assembly recently, "the US administration fell into the trap" of the Israeli lobby.

He noted that Arab ambassadors in Washington had been told by top State Department officials that the decision to close the PLO office in Washington was made "in order to take the wind out of the sail" and protect the PLO observer mission to the UN. The executive branch of government "thought" by sacrificing the PLO, it would salvage its treaty obligations to the UN.

But as it has turned out, the administration has once again underestimated the hold of Aipac on a majority of the members of Congress.

It is ironic that there was still a way out of the crisis for the administration, but it is obvious now that it was not ready to pursue it. The President of the US has the prerogative, under the US constitution, to exclude the implementation of this law where it violates the US treaty obligation—as in this particular case. But as Makoud has so well described it, "the legal authority is not accompanied by a corresponding political will."

This latest controversy, which

is bound to have major repercussions in the future on US policies and interests in the Arab world, has highlighted a number of facts which cannot be ignored.

First, despite the claims coming out of Tel Aviv and its lobby on Capitol Hill, Israel—as America's strongest ally—does not necessarily serve the interests of the US but has its own interests at heart as a priority.

In this latest controversy, it was in the interest of the US not to open a battle with the whole international community at the United Nations. The lobby has pushed the US into an embarrassing position, even with its own Western allies. The so-called "strategic ally" of the US has proved, in fact, it is more of a liability than an asset to US

interests.

Second, the Arabs were justified all along in believing that US policies towards the Middle East are drawn and decided upon not by the administration in power, but by Israel—working through its lobbying arm, Aipac, and through the US Congress.

Third, the US continues to give mixed signals to the Arabs, choosing, on the one hand, to launch a peace initiative while on the other denying representation to the people directly concerned

— the Palestinians. As one Arab diplomat put it, "they take in one hand what they give in the other."

Fourth, as Shultz learned the hard way, there is no "gentlemen's agreement" that will be respected by the Israeli lobby in the US when it comes to Israel, and not American, interests.

Fifth, and perhaps most significantly, US respect for international laws and treaties are very much arbitrary and can be respected or ignored depending on the whims of the US Congress and the powers that succeed in manipulating it. This obviously sets a precedent for other countries to do exactly the same when it is also in their interest, making a sham of international treaties.

And, sixth, the latest controversy has confirmed what is generally accepted about US foreign policy all over the world: It was shortsighted.

By winning the current legislative battle in the US, the administration and the Congress have, in fact, ensured that the US will lose out on the war eventually. The United States has, in fact, shackled its own hands and denied itself the role of playing a mediator in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

This latest controversy, which

## Armenian demonstrations in Soviet Union

**Slogans for greater democracy put to test**

demands the reunification with Armenia of a region inside the neighbouring Transcaucasian republic of Azerbaijan.

The region, Nagorno-Karabakh, was administered by Azerbaijan since 1923 although ethnic Armenians comprise 75 per cent of its population.

Grigoryants, a Moscow dissident who spent several days in the Armenian capital of Yerevan this week, said a "central organising committee" was coordinating actions of some 1,200 representatives in local factories and neighbourhoods.

Grigoryants told reporters 700,000 Armenians had turned out for a funeral march called by the committee last Tuesday, marked in the Soviet Union as International Women's Day, a national holiday.

"This committee is thoroughly distressing to the authorities," he said, adding that the groundswell of popular sentiment in Armenia over the past three weeks had taken Kremlin leaders by surprise.

The committee took shape in late February as up to one million people demonstrated for several days in Yerevan to

delivery on the promise.

During 1958 tension was building between the United States and China. The US had helped the Nationalist



AN unidentified man stands near the wreckage of a Russian TU-154 airliner which was blown up by hijackers on a flight from Irkutsk to Leningrad last Tuesday. Aeroflot air-hostess Tamara Zharkaya (below) was killed by the hijackers, moments before troops stormed the plane. (Reuter wirephoto)



FRENCH film director Louis Malle (right) poses with his wife, American actress Candice Bergen, after receiving seven Césars, the French equivalent of Hollywood's Academy Awards. Malle's 'Au revoir les enfants' won awards for best film, best direction, and best original screenplay, as well as winning top honours in decoration, editing, photography and sound. The film has been nominated for an American Oscar as best foreign film. (Reuter wirephoto)



GREEK Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou (right) welcomes new Greek Cypriot President George Vassiliou upon his arrival at Athens International Airport yesterday. Vassiliou arrived for a five day official visit, making his foreign policy debut. (Reuter wirephoto)



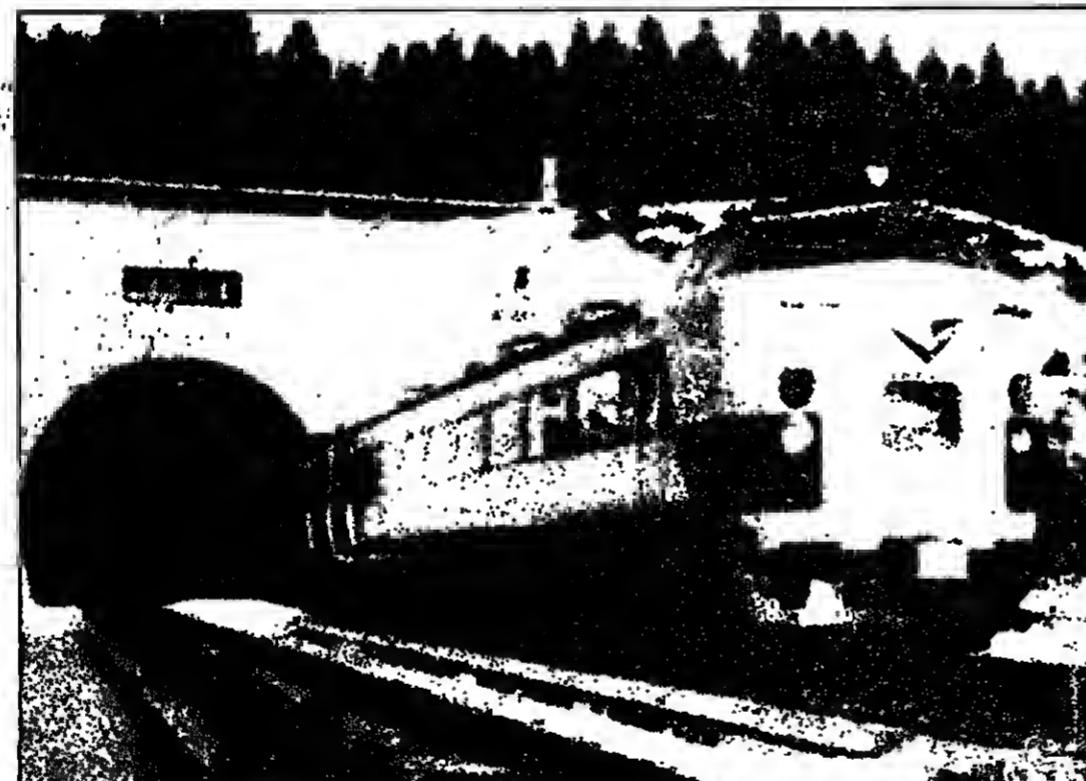
WEST GERMAN First Division soccer club FC Hamburg played the first match with advertisement for the British condom maker 'London' vs. Hamburger SV in Hamburg on Saturday. The club have won the latest round in a legal battle to boost their fortunes with condom advertisement. (Reuter wirephoto)



THOUSANDS of Bangladeshi Muslims demonstrated in Dhaka yesterday demanding their country be made an Islamic republic, and protesting against police attack on a similar march a year ago. (Reuter wirephoto)



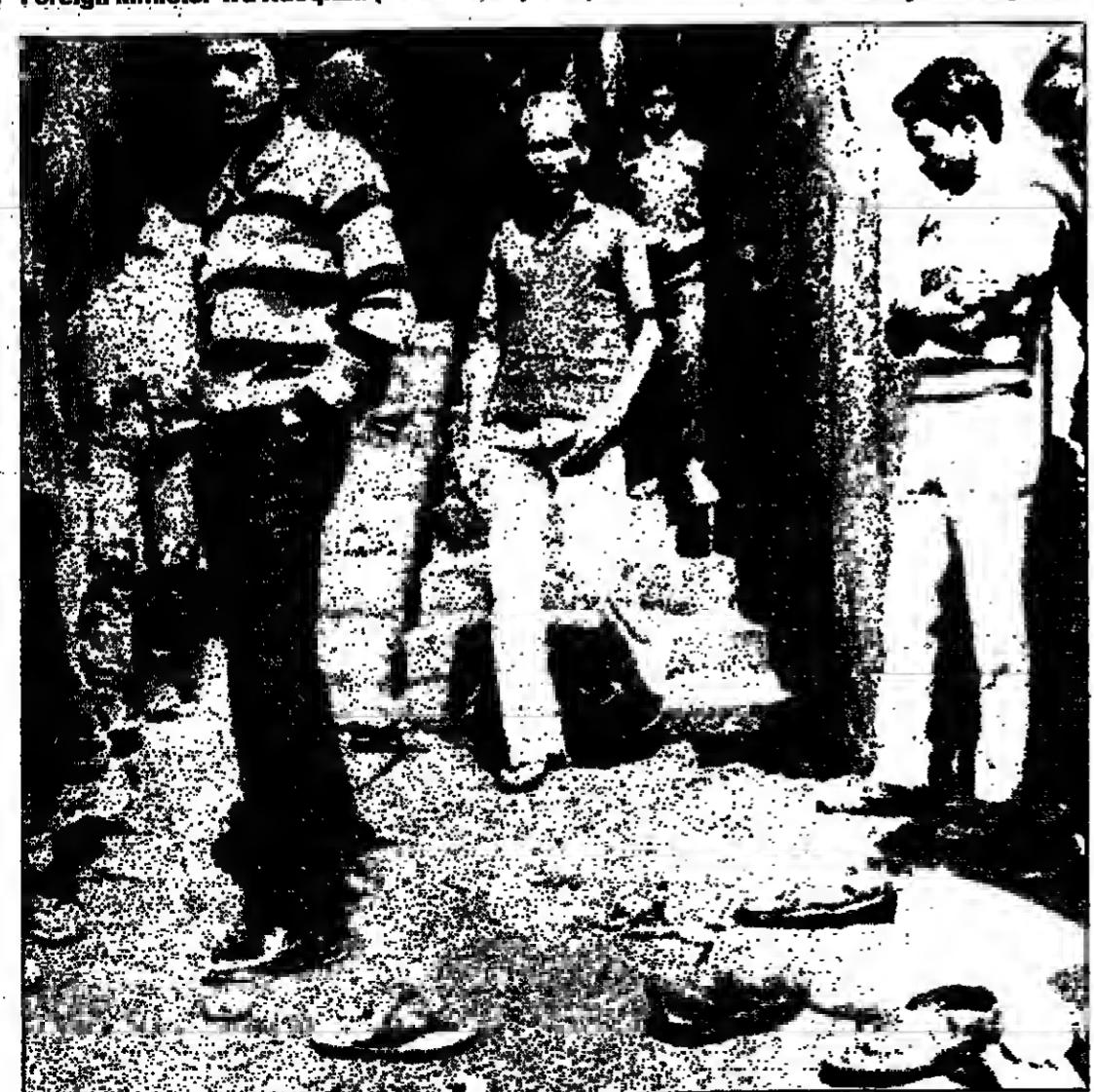
TIBETANS hold a peaceful demonstration outside the Chinese embassy in London on Saturday to mark the 1959 riots to end Chinese occupation of their country. The protest coincided with an official visit to Britain by Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE first train from northern Hokkaido Island emerges out of the world's longest undersea Seikan tunnel at Aomori on the Japanese Island Honshu, as the tunnel opened to rail traffic yesterday after a quarter-century of construction. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE badly burnt passenger bus left on the road in this north-central district of Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka, a day after it was ambushed by gunmen. At least 17 people were killed and most of them burned when the bus was set on fire. The picture was taken on Saturday. (Reuter wirephoto)



SHOES left behind by thousands of soccer fans caught in a stampede at Nepal's main soccer stadium lay in the mud today as onlookers gather outside the gate where 95 people were killed and hundreds injured after the crowd panicked during a hailstorm and were caught against locked gates on Saturday in the tiny Himalayan Kingdom of Nepal. (Reuter wirephoto)



A PALESTINIAN woman employs a bucket of stones to be used by other Palestinians during a stone-throwing demonstration in the West Bank. The Israeli Army used teargas and rubber bullets to disperse the demonstrators. (Reuter wirephoto)



A PALESTINIAN youth from Yasser Arafat's Al Fatah group stands near a destroyed building in Sidon on Saturday. Israel launched an air raid on Palestinian targets east of this southern port city as well, and an estimated 10 commandos were wounded in the attacks. (Reuter wirephoto)

'Sadat was my only worry, now I have no fears'

# Life after Anwar: Jehan Sadat

Mrs Jehan Sadat, widow of the slain Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, speaks candidly about the assassination, her former role as first lady and why she now lives in the United States.

**Q.** Is there anything you wish you'd said or done before Sadat's death?

A. Every time he went out I told him to wear a bulletproof vest but he never listened. This time I didn't see him before he left for the parade. But nothing that I could have said or done could have prevented what was meant to be. I try not to be bitter but there are times when it's hard.

**Q.** What did you feel at the moment Sadat was shot?

A. I immediately tried to run to him, but a security guard restrained me. I had bruises on my arms for two weeks after-

and still they say, "Look at her — she lives in a castle in America."

**Q.** If you had behaved publicly in a more conservative manner would Sadat have been more popular?

A. No. I was conservative. I always respected my country's traditions and my religion. I know that sometimes women go too far, but it's only then that people listen. People don't take easily to change and I knew I had to learn to take criticism if I was to change anything.

**Q.** Has living in America changed you?

A. There is no place in the



Mr and Mrs Anwar Sadat in happier days, at the wedding of their son.

**I did not have to leave Egypt — it is my right to be there if I want to. No one can stop me.'**

wards. I prayed that the bullet had missed, that the blood I could see wasn't his. I am not hysterical by nature, but there were moments when I couldn't control myself. When I finally heard he was dead, I cried and cried. However controlled I had to be because of my position as a human being there were times when I couldn't help it.

**Q.** Shortly after your husband's death, critics said you had been a "mediator" in affairs of state. How did that feel?

A. It was and still is very hurtful. But I've never walked away from a fight. I knew right at the start that if I started answering those charges I'd never be able to stop. I can accept someone else's argument when it's objective, but their criticism was always very cheap and I can neither respect nor understand that. Even now I live in a simple house which anyone can see

world that can change me. My heart and my feelings are always in Egypt. I still pray five times a day and fast during Ramadan. [Jehan goes for 30 days without food or water from dawn until dusk] although the daylight lasts longer here, which makes it more difficult.

**Q.** How did you ever begin to come to terms with your husband's death?

A. After 32 years of a happy, successful marriage it's so hard to let go. We were like two halves, completing a whole. But you have to accept that everything comes to an end. I continue to live my life as if I can see what I'm doing and approves. He'll be happier if he sees me working instead of crying and doing nothing. I have never asked for any favours. I am making my way alone and with dignity. I am very proud as an Egyptian woman to do this.

**Q.** What do you miss most about life in Egypt? Would you ever go back for good?

A. I miss everything, even something small like the sand. But I am always going backwards and forwards. Maybe in a few years I will go back permanently. Being here in the States is a break from all those memories and a challenge that makes me feel worthwhile and alive.

**Q.** You criticised America for bombing Libya and for support-

ing Israel in the October war. Why then, did you settle in the US?

A. I never forget that I am a woman, and although I do my own hair and make-up, I spend very little time on myself. I don't think looks are that important, it is a woman's behaviour and attitude which count. For me, my marriage and now my work are more important.

**Q.** The Holy Quran and its teachings are essential to your life. What is your favourite quote?

A. "There is no God but God." It is the essence of our belief. Whatever your religion, if you have faith you can find strength. It elevates you above the difficulties of life. But I think that only to feel and think is not enough, you have to do that God is with you.

**Q.** What do you miss most about life in Egypt? Would you ever go back for good?

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**Q.** You criticised America for bombing Libya and for support-

ing Israel in the October war. Why then, did you settle in the US?

A. In Egypt we say, "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." Women are by nature for peace, we are the ones who instil peace in the home and in our children. I think the real serenity we can achieve as individuals comes from our efforts to help others. If men would only give us a chance there would be no war in the world.

**Q.** Do you think women have a special part to play in the continuing fight for peace?

A. In Egypt we say, "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." Women are by nature for peace, we are the ones who instil peace in the home and in our children. I think the real serenity we can achieve as individuals comes from our efforts to help others. If men would only give us a chance there would be no war in the world.

**Q.** What was the happiest day of your life?

A. The day I married Sadat. Oh, and the days I had the children...

**Q.** How "normal" a marriage did you have with all the pres-

Each year they say I will marry this one or that one, but I'm still married and I still love Anwar.

me, I cannot be other than a woman of power. But even if you have different opinions you should try to understand the other side. I did not have to leave Egypt — it is my right to be there if I want to. No one can stop me.

**Q.** Your life has been threatened and you have a constant bodyguard. How does this affect you?

A. I hate it. It's like being in prison, you are never free and that's so hard to live with. In South Carolina my classrooms had to be searched for bombs, before I was even free to start teaching.

**Q.** Haven't you let down the women of Egypt by giving up your leading role in their struggle for equality?

A. No. I'm still involved whenever I'm there, usually for half the year. I don't feel that I must go on.

**Q.** Do you miss your children?

Jehan's three married daughters.

sures of power?

A. We accepted the pressures as part of our mission. There were many times we couldn't enjoy ourselves as we wanted, but each day we set aside time to be together to spend with our family. I prayed for the day we could just be together like any other married couple without the burden of responsibility.

**Q.** Could you ever fall in love or marry someone else?

A. No. Never. Because very simply no one could ever replace Sadat in my heart. All I ever wanted was to be Anwar's wife and stand by his side. Each year they say I will marry this one or that one, but I am still married and I still love Anwar. It's not that I live in the past. Anwar is gone and I know I must go on.

**Q.** Do you miss your children?

Jehan's three married daughters.



Mrs Jehan Sadat: Elizabeth Taylor once called her the 'most beautiful woman' in the world. (inset) Jehan gets her degree at the University of South Carolina, USA.

And Mrs Thatcher, who I admire tremendously. She's a wonderful woman; strong and decisive and she is a mother. I felt tremendous sympathy for her when her son was lost in the desert.

**Q.** You even took your degree finals in front of a TV camera. Do you ever long to be back in the public eye?

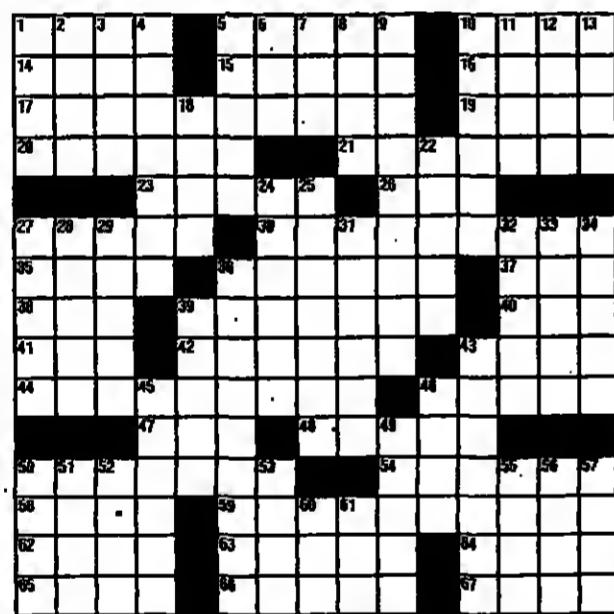
A. No. I miss none of the pomp. I never wanted publicity though sometimes I felt other women might learn by example. I don't need the approval of

others for my work, as long as I know I did my best that is enough.

Throughout your life with Sadat you were in constant fear for his life. Do you still fear death?

A. For the rest of my life I will hear the automatic gunfire that ripped the life out of my husband, but now it's over, finished. Sadat was my only worry. Now I don't fear anything — certainly not for myself. Sometimes life is so hard, I could welcome death because I know I'll meet my husband again.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

HANDLE WITH CARE

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♦ Q 9 8 6 4

♥ A 7

♦ K 3

♦ K 4 3 2

WEST

♦ A 10 2

♦ K Q J 8 3

♦ Q 10 6 5

♦ 8

EAST

♦ K J 7 5

♦ 10 9 4 2

♦ 9 2

♦ 9 7 5

SOUTH

♦ 3

♦ 6 5

♦ A J 8 7 4

♦ A Q J 10 6

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♦ 1 ♠ 1 ♣ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

5 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

We know a lot of players who go

shuffling through the streets barefoot because of the fact that they did not draw trumps. However, there are just as many who go around unshod as a result of drawing trumps too soon.

While minor suits tend to be neglected, several pairs in a duplicate pair event managed to avoid the poor three no trump contract in fa-

vor of the good five club game. North's sensible decision to jump to four clubs was the prime impetus to that contract. All that remained was for South to justify his partner's bidding.

After the lead of the king of hearts, the more simple-minded souls won, drew three rounds of trumps and then tried to set up diamonds with a single ruff — a line that was distinctly against the odds. They ended up losing a trick in each plain suit for down one.

The better technicians realized that they might need two ruffs to set up diamonds. So they drew only two rounds of trumps, then tried to ruff a diamond low. Unfortunately, East overtrumped, so this line also resulted in down one.

Only one declarer made his contract, and the defenders could do nothing to thwart him. He won the ace of hearts, cashed the king-ace of diamonds and led a third round of the suit. Instead of ruffing in dummy, however, he discarded a heart. Now there was no way that the defenders could stop him from ruffing a heart low and a diamond high. That loser-on-loser play allowed him to concede only one spade trick and one diamond.

**C.** We know a lot of players who go shuffling through the streets barefoot because of the fact that they did not draw trumps. However, there are just as many who go around unshod as a result of drawing trumps too soon.

While minor suits tend to be neglected, several pairs in a duplicate pair event managed to avoid the poor three no trump contract in fa-

## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



By Johnny Hart

B.C.



## YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 19)

You will have to deal with a matter before you are quite ready to do so. You will have all the energy you need but not all the time. You should avoid pointless exertions. Be a little more tolerant.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

A good idea will help you to make the right decision. You should not place too much trust in your intuitions, rely more on reason. Attend once to a personal matter. Be prompt.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21)

You should not rely on others to do things for you. Do not be too fond of the sound of your own voice. Take a little better care of your health. Be reliable.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will have to deal with someone who is not inclined to listen to reason. What started as a hobby will tend to turn into an obsession, so beware. Avoid excessive expenditure. Be moderate.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You should not expect others to be at your beck and call. Make sure you do not neglect an infection. You will tend to exaggerate and should take corrective measures. Be sensible.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

Your personal situation will take a turn for the better but you must continue to be tactful. You should not allow your attention to wander. Take what you hear, with a slight pinch of salt. Be magnanimous.



"Don't blame me! I told you to put it in the trunk."

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Try to take a more positive attitude. Once you have made up your mind stick to it. Try to exercise just a little more self-control. Be considerate.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You should make sure you are not getting into anyone's way. Have the courage of your convictions. Do not take anything for granted just now. Be reasonable.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Things will be more in your liking. You have something to be really pleased about. You will be able to see things more clearly. Be resolute.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You should make sure you do not interfere in something that does not concern you. Avoid making promises you will not be able to keep. You should keep your wits very much about you. Be attentive.

Joy, isol's

## ENVIRONMENT



Antarctic hole: Scott's Terra Nova in Antarctica, where scientists have found an alarming gap in the ozone layer above the ice-pack. Fast-food packaging is believed to be one of the culprits.

## New ozone danger

A sharp increase in methane gas in the atmosphere will make the planet warmer and may worsen seasonal losses of protective ozone over Antarctica.

By Lee Siegel

LOS ANGELES, (AP): A sharp increase in methane gas in the atmosphere since 1978 probably will make the planet warmer and may worsen seasonal losses of protective ozone over Antarctica, scientists say.

But the 11 percent increase in methane in the past decade also may slow depletion of the ozone shield over the rest of the planet, said F. Sherwood Rowland and Donald R. Blake, chemists at the University of California at Irvine.

Their study was published recently in the journal *Science*.

Methane is the major component of natural gas, but about 80 per cent of atmospheric methane comes from decomposition in rice paddies, swamps and the intestines of cattle, with some contribution from wood digestion in termites, Rowland said.

Humans are responsible for increased methane levels

because they are raising more cows, growing more rice and chopping down tropical forests, which provides food for more termites, said atmospheric scientist Pat Zimmerman of the national centre for atmospheric research in Boulder, Colorado.

Methane, along with carbon dioxide and pollutants, contributes to the "greenhouse effect" in which solar heat is trapped near the earth, rather than dissipating through the higher atmosphere.

Scientists generally agree that the increased level of such pollutants will cause a worldwide temperature rise of 3 to 5 degrees Fahrenheit (1.6 to 2.75 degrees Celsius) by the year 2050.

They fear the increase may cause crop-threatening droughts and partially melt polar ice caps, which could raise sea levels up to 15 feet (5 meters) and threaten coastal cities.

Blake and Rowland said methane increases may worsen the ozone hole by aiding formation of clouds above Antarctica for a few months starting every September.

Although ozone is an air pollutant at low altitudes, the ozone layer in the stratosphere



A consumer's selection of aerosols. Many such products are contributing to the build-up of CFCs.

shields earth from harmful ultraviolet radiation. Scientists say reduction of the ozone layer will cause more skin cancers and might trigger climatic changes.

In 1974, Rowland and chemist Mario Molina first warned that the ozone layer was threatened by man-made chlorine compounds called chlorofluorocarbons or CFCs, which are used as refrigeration coolants, aerosol propellants and for making plastic foams. The United States banned spray-on CFCs in 1978.

Mounting evidence indicates CFCs are responsible for the worldwide loss of about 1 per cent of earth's ozone shield and the formation of a hole that forms in the ozone layer above Antarctica for a few months starting every September.

Blake and Rowland said methane increases may worsen the ozone hole by aiding formation of clouds above Antarctica. That's because studies by Molina and others suggest the

clouds enhance chemical reactions that allow chlorine from CFCs to break down ozone.

As methane rises into the polar stratosphere, it breaks down and releases hydrogen, which combines with a chemical called hydroxyl to form water, which in turn freezes into clouds. Blake explained.

Outside Antarctica, wind and higher temperatures prevent formation of stratospheric clouds, so methane attacks chlorine from CFCs, reducing the amount of chlorine available to destroy ozone, Blake said.

The 11 per cent methane increase "will make the ozone hole over Antarctica more severe. It will probably make the ozone depletion in the rest of the world less severe," said Molina, of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's jet propulsion laboratory,

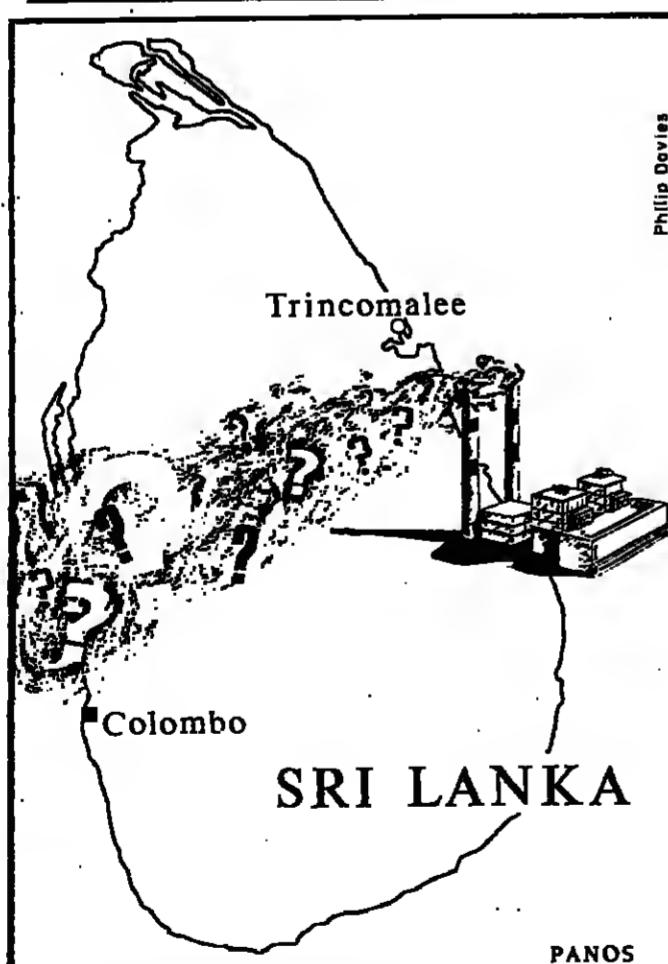
in Pasadena.

He said the increase "will make the greenhouse effect more severe."

Rowland and Blake also said that because increasing atmospheric methane reduces the amount of hydroxyl present, it indicates the atmosphere is losing its ability to cleanse itself of pollutants. Hydroxyl reacts with many pollutants and removes them from the atmosphere.

## Casting clouds over Sri Lanka

Environmental groups in Sri Lanka are delighted with their campaign against a major new coal-fired power plant. They say they have "come of age" in their first joint national campaign. Now they await an official decision due on March 20.



Will a new coal-fired power station cast a cloud over Sri Lanka?

tor of coast conservation, Mr. S. R. Amarasinghe, asking him to deny the permit."

Letters arrived daily in all three national languages. By law, Mr. Amarasinghe's small office had to respond to everyone. Some 50 of the 1,000 letter-writers also visited the director to press their views — forcing him to hold an impromptu public inquiry.

The writers came from "all over the country, from very remote areas" de Silva says, belying claims by the CEB that the protesters were a Colombo elite who wanted to preserve the beautiful Trincomalee bay as a holiday resort.

However, the UNEP study seems unlikely to be under way before early April — too late for

Mr. Amarasinghe's decision.

In the circumstances, Mr. Amarasinghe has three main options: to grant the permit unconditionally; to grant it on condition that the plans be improved for example, "sulphur scrubbers" could be added to the power station chimneys, to reduce the danger of creating acid rain; or to deny the permit altogether.

"The environmental groups favour abandonment," says de Silva. "But we are responsible NGOs. We know Sri Lanka needs more power. We are not saying down with power plants, down with coal. We want power from a plant that is sustainable over a long period, a plant that will not leave Sri Lanka with enormous costs for environmental recovery a few years from now. We are saying that if we must burn coal, then we must choose the right place and make thorough, objective assessments of environmental effects."

Acid rain could be a key issue in Ceylon. Ceylon teas are particularly vulnerable, de Silva claims. Tea grows best in acidic soils at a pH (acidity) of 4.5 to 5.5, but the soils are already much more acidic than that (pH 3.5) and approaching a critical value, says de Silva, quoting work by Ceylon tea researchers.

Already the mineral dolomite (calcium magnesium carbonate) is being spread widely to neutralise the soil. Just a further pH 0.1 increase caused by acid rain could be critical for the tea industry, he says.

Sofar, de Silva is pleased with the environmentalists' campaign. "I think the environmental movement in Sri Lanka has come of age. It has united nine NGOs that have never collaborated before. We've discovered the strength that comes from working together." The NGOs have also found that their high-profile campaign has drawn in lawyers, concerned citizens and many scientists "who we'd never dreamed would join us earlier."

Will this new-found influence bring to bear on other issues? "Certainly" says de Silva. Campaigns are now being planned against a 3,000-acre Australian-Canadian stripmining operation in a watershed area next to a national park; against the "very high" lead levels in Colombo; and for the amendment of the statutes of the Ceylon Environmental Authority, to give the body more than mere advisory power.

"At last we are well on our way to bringing the environment to the front of Sri Lankan politics" de Silva says.

Panos Features

## Cremations go electric on the Ganges

The Indian government aims to cut pollution of the sacred river Ganges, by building a \$560,000 crematorium in ancient Varanasi where pilgrims have flocked for years to burn their dead on log pyres by the shore.

By Michael Miller

VARANASI, India: Cremations at Hinduism's holiest city on the banks of the Ganges are going electric.

The Indian government is trying to cut pollution of the sacred river by building an electric crematorium in Varanasi, where pilgrims have flocked for hundreds of years to bathe in the Ganges and to burn their dead on log pyres by the shore.

But inefficient cremations often result in half-burned bodies being cast into the river.

The crematorium, scheduled for completion in June, will not only help clean up the Ganges, but will also save time and money, according to its builders.

"At present, the cost of burning a body is 500 to 1,000 rupees (\$40-\$80)," A.K. Ghoshal, executive engineer of the Indian government's Ganga (Ganges) project directorate, said in an interview. Electric cremations will cost less than 100 rupees (\$8), he estimated.

"So much wood will be saved," Ghoshal said. "It takes three to five quintals (300-500 kg) of wood to burn one body."

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"At last we are well on our way to bringing the environment to the front of Sri Lankan politics" de Silva says.

Panos Features



Thousands of pilgrims throng the river Ganges in India.

From dawn until dark the steps in the central city are packed with pilgrims clad in saris and loin cloths taking their ritual dips.

Many Varanasi residents use the river as their bathtub, and stretches of the bank are lined with dhobi-wallahs, or clothes washers, bashing soiled garments against flat stones.

Cremations take place chiefly at Manikarnika ghat, near the centre of town. Smoke and flames rise 24 hours a day from



Workers construct an electric crematorium in the holy city of Varanasi. The project is aimed at cutting pollution along the banks of the sacred Ganges river.

a body. It will also be used to cremate unclaimed bodies.

According to Hindu custom, all dead bodies must be burned. When the burning takes place beside the Ganges, the ashes are cast into the river.

Some poor families cannot afford enough wood, so the result is half-burned bodies, said one government official connected with the project, who asked not to be named. Then they throw the half-burned parts into the river, which increases the amount of decomposed matter and causes contamination of the water.

The electric crematorium will leave only pure ashes to be scattered on the river, the official said.

Varanasi takes its drinking water from the Ganges upstream from the cremation sites, but many cities down river also depend on its flow.

A bonfire cremation takes about three hours. In the electric facility, which will have two furnaces, cremations will take only about 45 minutes.

The crematorium, which will cost seven million rupees (\$560,000) to build, is part of a package of 29 Ganges riverside improvement projects in Varanasi that the Indian government is financing at a total cost of 430 million rupees (\$36 million).

## Canned oxygen — 65 cents a whiff

By Seigo Sakamoto

TOKYO, (Reuter): What price fresh air? In Tokyo it's the equivalent of 65 cents a whiff.

Canned oxygen is becoming a big seller in Japan and a new breed of bar is springing up in Tokyo selling inhalations of the invisible but essential gas most people are content to breathe in free of charge.

"A power plant that recharges human beings," proclaims one oxygen advert.

The first "02 bar" with a simple counter and several chairs under blue lights, made its debut last October in the sporting goods section at one of Tokyo's major department stores, Takashimaya.

A male attendant and female clerks cater to customers who turn up to inhale three minutes of 95-per-cent pure oxygen for 100 yen (about 75 cents).

Customers can choose oxygen scented with either peppermint, coffee, lemon or mushroom through a wine glass-shaped mask.

"We've had a larger than expected turnout of some 50 people daily," Takashimaya spokesman Hiromitsu Morii said.

The oxygen barman, Masaru Kageyama, added: "Most people say they feel refreshed after trying the oxygen. But it seems that those who are quite healthy or expect too much do not feel any noticeable effects."

"I don't feel much effect," said a middle-aged businessman after trying a whiff at the bar. "But I will buy a can to take home because my colleagues say it will help neutralise my heavy smoking."

Several firms are competing in the fledgling canned oxygen market, with a five litre can selling for between 700 yen (5.30 dollars) and 1,500 yen (11.3 dollars).

All say they are optimistic about prospects for the product.

Makers say that inhaling several deep whiffs from the cans give a refreshing feeling and hasten recovery from

fatigue or a hangover. A five-litre can contains two or three minutes of the gas, makers said.

"After long hours of strenuous workout, tense study, uncomfortable driving, or a hectic meeting ... a can of oxygen revitalises your lungs with new, instant power," trumpets one advertisement.

Enthusiasts

The makers are targeting sports enthusiasts, exhausted students and businessmen at present, but Japan's growing population of old people is also seen as a potential market.

Since last September, Nippon Sanso has marketed five litre cans of 95 percent oxygen called "Oxy", and a company spokesman said sales so far were close to the pace of its sales target of one million cans a year.

Yoshihisa Toichi of Daido Sanso said that over 100,000 cans of peppermint-flavoured "O2N" and "O2FF" priced at 1,000 yen (7.50 dollars) apiece, had been sold in the 3 months since they went on market last August.

"It's more than we had anticipated," he said.

Asked why oxygen was becoming popular, Nippon Sanso spokesman Akira Yamada said that Japanese people were more affluent, more aware of the pollution affecting the big cities and under greater stress in their daily lives than before.

"I think it is a demand of the times that people want things good to health," he said.

Professor Jun Yamakawa of the Nippon Women's College of Physical Education said she thought the oxygen sniffing would do healthy people little good.

"Unless you have gone through very strenuous exercise, inhaling pure oxygen would probably be more beneficial to your mind than to your body."

"Deep breathing of natural air, about 21 percent of which is oxygen, would be enough to recover from normal exercise," she added.

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Training seminar for professionals

### Experts meet to discuss how to improve training facilities

By M.C. Bose

A TRAINING seminar for professionals, organised by Zaid Al Kazemi Trading Co., was held at the Kuwait Plaza Hotel yesterday.

Twenty senior training experts took part in this specialised seminar aimed at bringing out Kuwait's talent in the field of training and aimed to introduce the specialists from various organisations to one another facilitating the exchange of experience.

The seminar was sponsored by a Kuwait company specialising in providing training packages and aids and representing internationally reputed training organisations such as M/S McGraw-Hill Training Systems, College of Petroleum Oxford, Racial Training College, UK, etc.

**Importance**  
The highlight of the seminar was the presentation of research papers by trainers based in Kuwait. The first paper was on "Modern developments in training" by Dr U. L. Rao, Head of Training, Institute of Banking Studies, Kuwait, which is the apex organisation for training facilities for banking and investment field.

He discussed the distinction between training, education and development very succinctly. He emphasised the importance of internalising the training and development process within an



Dr U. L. Rao

organisation without which the entire effort can be wasted.

The trainer in the modern context has to assume several roles such as strategic thinker, administrator, consultant, designer and instructor.

These require refinements in the methods of training. The learning method is now often multi-dimensional and multi-media. Research has given insights into effective adult learning methods which can be used in the design of training courses.

Along with developments in technology the use of audiovisuals has assumed increasing importance. The watchword of the future trainer is "developing excellence."

The next paper was on the use of personal computers in various fields of training and was presented



Some of those who attended the seminar

by Mike Anderton (who is an international consultant) and Rajan, Manager Training Services of Zaid Al Kazemi Sons Trading Co.

The paper was presented in the form of a role play with Anderton outlining the requirements of the trainer in terms of his goals, objectives, needs and constraints in developing a training programme and presenting it to number of participants and evaluating them.

Rajan then demonstrated how course preparation, presentation of training and evaluation of participant's comprehension is made easy and time saving by use of personal computer and special software.

This system is called Computer Based Training (CBT for short) which is the latest state of

the art training technology. The major benefit of CBT is that it is highly cost effective saving considerably on the time of the trainer and that of participants and making the whole programme very interesting and personalised.

The third paper was presented by Adel Al Shamsi, Director of Training and Development, Kuwait Airways. The subject was "New Technology in Training Information & Needs", abbreviated as TINS. The main feature of TINS is the integration of three modules which form its structure which is Staff basic information, Job analysis and Training records.

The major benefits of TINS has been in clear identification of training needs, systematic tabulation of training pro-

grams, career development plan for each employee, budget control, information and record system and automated management system for manpower progression.

The meeting was attended by some of the well known figures in training field such as the Training Manager for Petroleum Training Centre, the apex training body of the oil sector, by Assistant General Manager of Kuwait Finance House, Administration Manager of the Sultan Centre, etc.

M/S Zaid Al Kazemi Sons Trading Co. has established a "Sales Support Centre" for marketing and providing after-sales service of training packages and computer based training programmes. They further plan to expand into providing specialised handbooks and publications

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M/S Zaid Al Kazemi Sons Trading Co. has established a "Sales Support Centre" for marketing and providing after-sales service of training packages and computer based training programmes. They further plan to expand into providing specialised handbooks and publications

relating to Training & Development, Manpower Planning, Career Development, Personnel Administration & Computer Based Training.

Apart from representing number of reputed training organisations & publishers and software companies they also have contracted an international consultant, Mike Anderton to provide specialists training facilities in the field of Management and Marketing focusing on increasing sales productivity of salesmen & update sales management techniques.

Their CBT effort is spearheaded by Mrs Chandrika Rajan who is a specialist in Computer Application in the field of training.

Apart from the CBT field they further intend to develop "Desk Top Publishing Tools" to facilitate preparation of training programmes.

**Clients**

In 1987, Zaid Al Kazemi Sons Trading Company secured a number of reputed clients for their training packages such as M/S Sultan Center, United Arab Shipping Company, Commercial Bank of Kuwait, Kuwait Finance House, Kuwait Oil Company, etc.

The department is headed by P.B.V. Rajan who also handles marketing high technology scientific equipments such as Lasers, Radiation monitoring instruments, Medical Electronics etc.

Even costlier to the Treasury if, as anticipated, Lawson introduces a multi-year overhaul of the taxation of husbands and wives.

A possible curb on another deduction — a tax break on mortgage-interest payments — is the only way the UK Chancellor may broaden the base.

Unlike tax overhaul in other Western nations, Lawson isn't expected to widen the tax base by closing loopholes that taxpayers use to reduce their tax bills.

"It seems to me Britain has a long way to go to broaden the tax base like the US has done," says Joseph Pechman, a tax expert and fellow of the Brookings Institution, a Washington DC-based think tank.

To be fair to Lawson, Britain doesn't offer quite as many tax shelters as the US did before its 1986 Tax Reform Act. "There's not quite so much underground to be cleared" in Britain, notes Lloyds Bank's Johnson.

**Expensive**

In addition, Lawson's well-received 1984 overhaul of corporate taxes actually reduced tax rates and closed many shelters, too.

The most expensive loopholes for the UK government are allowances for married men and single people, which will return an estimated £23.3 billion to taxpayers in the tax year ending April 5.

These loopholes could become

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## World Business Summary

### Reagan pledges to veto protectionist trade bill

WASHINGTON, March 13, (Reuters): President Reagan said yesterday chances of an acceptable trade law emerging from Congress had improved but he would veto any legislation that was "anti-trade, anti-consumer, anti-jobs and anti-growth." Reagan, in his weekly radio address, said he was encouraged that congressional conferees had eliminated a number of protectionist provisions he objected to but "many objectionable provisions remain." "Only wholesale elimination of many of the existing items will produce a bill I can sign," he said. Reagan said the US trade picture was improving, citing figures showing that the merchandise trade deficit has declined 15 per cent since the third quarter of 1986 and a rise in the volume of exports over the past 15 months. The US merchandise trade deficit rose to a record \$159.2 billion last year from \$144.3 billion in 1986. Government and private economists say a weaker dollar has made American products cheaper to buy overseas and boosted exports.

"Clearly we are in an export boom," Reagan said.

Reagan made similar remarks to businesses on Friday at a White House meeting, indicating the administration has become more optimistic about chances of receiving from Congress a trade law it can accept. Commerce Secretary William Verity, in a television interview, said he expected Congress to send its final trade bill to the White House some time next month.

"Well, I think the leaders in Congress want a trade bill," he said. "They want it very badly, and they're making a big push and hopefully they will have it in pretty good shape by the end of March and into April."

### EEC imports on the rise

BRUSSELS, March 13, (Xinhua): The European Economic Communities (EEC) registered a balanced trade last year as its exports fell one per cent in both value and volume terms while its imports rose by a same percentage, said EEC statistics office yesterday.

In 1986, EEC exports were two per cent higher than imports. Its exports to third countries were an estimated 339 billion Ecu (European currency unit, 1 Ecu = 1.24 USD) in 1987, compared with 342 billion Ecu in 1986. Of this amount (The Danish and Greek figures had yet to be estimated), sales to industrialised third countries were 229 billion Ecu, up one per cent. The United States remained the largest EEC customer with purchase of 72 billion Ecu, despite a four per cent less than in 1986.

EEC deliveries the European Free Trade Association (Eftra) countries continued to expand, rising four per cent to over 90 billion Ecu in 1987. Meanwhile, exports to Japan rose 19 per cent to nearly 14 billion Ecu. EEC exports to developing countries dropped three per cent in 1987 to 105 billion Ecu due largely to a sharp decline in commodity prices which caused many countries to rein back their imports.

Eastern European countries also narrowed their imports from the community in 1987 by eight per cent to 25 billion Ecu.

But the overall decline was moderated by a 14 per cent increase in exports to the newly industrialising countries and regions in the Far East to 21 billion Ecu, said the report.

## UK budget may propose bold changes in tax system

LONDON: March 13, The UK's next budget is widely expected to propose bold changes in the tangled British tax system.

But when Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, unveils his budget on Tuesday, the changes may prove less far-reaching than the pundits have been predicting.

Instead, the overhaul may well boil down to somewhat lower income taxes financed by soaring government revenues.

Many analysts think Lawson will slash taxes by as much as £4 billion (\$7.4 billion) by lowering personal income-tax rates, which presently range from 27 per cent to 60 per cent, and reducing the number of tax brackets.

By tradition, tax changes in the budget for the financial year starting April 1 remain shrouded in secrecy until the Chancellor reveals them to the House of Commons, according to Wall Street Journal.

The tax cuts — prematurely hailed as tax reform by analysts and eminent academics — seem likely to be financed by Britain's roaring economic expansion.

Thanks to surging personal and corporate earnings, Treasury coffers now overflow with an estimated extra £10 billion.

After Lawson uses this revenue bonanza to give Britons

some of their money back, he will have enough left over to create Britain's first effective budget surplus in years.

Some of their money back, he will have enough left over to create Britain's first effective budget surplus in years.

However, Britain finances the cuts, the country is ripe for deeper reductions in income taxes than Lawson may envision, says Alan Reynolds, chief economist of Polyconomics, a US supply-side research firm.

If Lawson didn't cut taxes as expected, he actually would be squeezing the economy with a more restrictive fiscal policy. In other words, he would be raising taxes.

Bracket creep has caused tax-payers' deductions — called allowances in Britain — to lag their income growth, providing the cash to cover Lawson's tax-cutting check. "The bill is being paid by (tax) allowances not going up in line with earnings," says Christopher Johnson, chief economic adviser of Lloyds Bank PLC, a big British bank. UK tax allowances are indexed to inflation but don't reflect real increases in earnings.

"Rate reduction is not tax reform," says Charles McLaren, a

fellow of the Hoover Institution, a California-based think tank. McLaren also was chief architect of the US Treasury's first tax-overhaul blueprint in 1984. "But I would argue reducing those top rates is worthwhile."

However, Britain finances the cuts, the country is ripe for deeper reductions in income taxes than Lawson may envision, says Alan Reynolds, chief economist of Polyconomics, a US supply-side research firm.

In a recent letter to London's Financial Times, he estimated that a taxpayer earning the equivalent of \$28,000 a year pays a marginal tax rate of 60 per cent in Britain, 45 per cent in France, 32 per cent in West Germany and 31 per cent in the US. (Marginal taxes describe the effective rate levied after all direct taxes, including social security, are taken into account).

It's also probable that Lawson actually won't reduce taxpayers' tax burden that much.

Instead, he will partially shift their burden to spending from income. The Chancellor is expected to raise indirect taxes on tobacco, alcohol and gasoline and possibly extend the value-added tax, a general tax on the consumption of many goods and services, to cover newspapers and books as well.

Unlike tax overhauls in other Western nations, Lawson isn't expected to widen the tax base by closing loopholes that taxpayers use to reduce their tax bills.

"It seems to me Britain has a long way to go to broaden the tax base like the US has done," says Joseph Pechman, a tax expert and fellow of the Brookings Institution, a Washington DC-based think tank.

To be fair to Lawson, Britain doesn't offer quite as many tax shelters as the US did before its 1986 Tax Reform Act. "There's not quite so much underground to be cleared" in Britain, notes Lloyds Bank's Johnson.

**Expensive**

In addition, Lawson's well-received 1984 overhaul of corporate taxes actually reduced tax rates and closed many shelters, too.

The most expensive loopholes for the UK government are allowances for married men and single people, which will return an estimated £23.3 billion to taxpayers in the tax year ending April 5.

These loopholes could become

even costlier to the Treasury if, as anticipated, Lawson introduces a multi-year overhaul of the taxation of husbands and wives.

A possible curb on another deduction — a tax break on mortgage-interest payments — is the only way the UK Chancellor may broaden the base.

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## Anglo-Tunisian trade ties expected to get major boost

LONDON, March 13, (Kuna): Anglo-Tunisian trade relations are expected to receive a major boost tomorrow when a Tunisian week gets underway here.

The week is organised by the Tunisian government jointly with the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce (ABCC).

The centrepiece of the week will be an exhibition of Tunisian goods to be held in the New Royal Horticultural Society hall in central London.

Among the items to be exhibited are textiles and garments, handicrafts and agricultural products.

There will also be a cultural display of Tunisian art and traditional costumes as well as folklore dances.

**Exhibition**

The exhibition will be opened officially tomorrow by Tunisia's Minister of National Economy, Slaheddine Ben Mbarek and British Minister of Trade, Alan Clark.

There will be also a one-day seminar to be held following the exhibition opening.

It will be addressed by the two ministers in addition to a panel of British and Tunisian businessmen.

Among the topics to be discussed will be scope for joint ventures and the development of economic ties between Tunisia and Britain.

The ABCC said that the occasion would provide UK companies with opportunities for strengthening their activities in Tunisia.

"The Tunisian Minister is due to arrive here later today to take part in these activities."

The ABCC pointed out that the main aim of the week is to promote Tunisian exports to the UK.

In 1986 Britain enjoyed a £22.5 million trade surplus with Tunisia compared with £3.4 million in the previous year.

British exports to Tunisia fell by only eight per cent in 1986 to £9.8 million compared with £43.2 million in the previous year.

However, UK imports from Tunisia dropped by more than 50 per cent to £17.29 million compared with £39.8 million in 1985.

## Egypt seeks more Arab investment

CAIRO, March 13, (Renter): Egypt urged Arab business men today to invest in the region and said it hoped to attract more of their money.

Prime Minister Atif Sedki told the opening session of a four-day Arab investment conference his government was doing its best to ease red tape hampering the flow of Arab money into the country.

He said Egypt gave priority to projects that would create more jobs and use local raw materials as part of its efforts to increase exports, cut imports and bring modern technology to the Arab region.

### Investment

An "official free foreign exchange market, set up last May, helped create better climate for investment," Sedki said.

Economy Minister Yousri Mustapha said Arabs invested heavily elsewhere despite the region's vast economic potential. Inter-Arab investment was vital to economic and social development, he said.

The conference, organised by the Egyptian General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAIFZ), is being attended by delegates from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, Jordan, Morocco and Sudan.

### Food commodities

LONDON, March 13, (Kuna): The aggregate value of agricultural and food commodities exported by Saudi Arabia to various countries during 1987 amounted to \$302.5 million representing 30.6 per cent of the total export of the non-oil sectors.

## In search of an honest broker

By Midas

per year.

TRADITIONALLY this is the time of year when the expatriate financial advisers flock through Kuwait with briefcases filled with brochures and application forms for a wide range of savings plans, investment schemes and just plain scams! For the uninitiated they can be very persuasive with their smart suits and smart talk, but beware!

How can you tell the reputable from the dishonest? The credible from the crooked? First of all, you need time to decide. If any financial salesman tries to steamroller you into making a hasty decision about his products, my best advice is to back off.

If they keep on with a line about "Act now or you'll miss a great opportunity," don't believe a word of it.

### Promises

Any honest adviser will realise that making a major financial commitment should not be hurried or rushed.

The second thing to beware of is promises of extraordinary profits. At a time when all the world's markets are feeling distinctly bungover and fragile, you should look askance at someone who blithely offers you a guarantee of anything over 15 per cent

If they haven't done that, why are they here?

The next point to remember is never, ever, sign a cheque to the financial adviser themselves. If they want you to invest with a major unit trust, then make your cheque out to that unit trust. This is standard procedure and they should object at all.

If they do, ask yourself why?

You are likely to come up with a

nasty answer.

Of course, it is perfectly possible to bear that figure, possible, but by no means easy, and NEVER guaranteed.

Most of the major fraud cases concerning expatriates over the past decade have involved a company, or bank, that promised investors a foolproof method of making a fortune.

### Funds

Think about it, if some company you never heard of really did back a foolproof method of making twenty or thirty per cent profit every year, they would hardly be here scrapping for your money.

Instead, they would go to the big boys, major banks and pension funds and even the Kuwait Investment Office, all of whom have merely seen the first in a series of bear markets that will lead prices down and down over the next few years.

### Decision

However, if you put your money into the bank, then any financial adviser you may have consulted about the decision will get exactly nothing, no commission, nothing from the bank, and therefore, no way of funding his trip to Kuwait to impart such valuable advice.

### Services

Unfortunately, such services are not widely available. However, there is one other thing to consider: financial advisers are not supermen, they just know a lot more about the subject than you do. If you learn as much as you can about finance then you will narrow that knowledge gap and will be much more difficult to fool. After all, it's your money, you worked hard for it, and you should be prepared to work just as hard to make it grow.

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## Wall Street's merger fever will continue despite cooling: analysts

NEW YORK, March 13, (Reuters): Wall Street's merger fever cooled a few degrees last week, but analysts believe it is too early to say it is burning out.

But just as rumours of takeovers in the works had been sending some share prices soaring, new rumours last week that more arrests for trading on inside information about such deals led many investors to dump shares.

Some also wondered whether a slowdown in takeover battles signalled by news last Thursday that Forstmann Little and Co., a private investment firm, dropped a bid to buy glass-maker AFG Industries Inc. for more than \$280 million.

### Reason

Speculating on mergers has been a big reason for a rise in share prices on Wall Street, as several European bourses since regional stockmarket declines in October.

Last week's sell off of takeover-linked shares was a key factor keeping Wall Street shares under pressure.

"Everybody's being cautious. The crash is still in the back of everybody's mind," said one arbitrager, who asked not to be named.

Traders were kept on tenterhooks by rumours, unsubstantiated by any official source, that arrests for insider dealing were coming kept.

The US attorney in New York said no indictments were imminent.

**Arab world owns more than half the world's oil reserves**

## Experts to discuss energy cooperation

LOOMING oil shortages in poorer Arab states and a sharp drop in income among wealthier countries due to falling oil prices took centre stage at today's Arab energy conference in Baghdad.

The Arab world collectively owns more than half the world's known crude oil reserves and boasts several of the world's biggest oil exporters.

But some Arab states such as Morocco and Sudan must import petrol and other oil products at great cost and others may have to do so soon.

### Efforts

"It is imperative that efforts be directed toward enhancing coordination between the Arab countries," said the March bulletin of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), one of several pan-Arab groups that organised the conference.

Opec says total Arab refining capacity totalled 274 million tonnes per year in 1987, more than enough to meet total demand for refined products of some 180 million tonnes.

By that time, experts warn, some of the smaller oil producers

average only three-quarters used, and many poorer Arab states must import.

The main task of the main refineries is to export to foreign markets," Opec acting secretary-general Abdel Aziz Al Wattar said last week. "This picture must be altered through creation of a common Arab market."

Experts at the conference will examine ways to distribute refined products and gas to have not states, improve refinery utilisation and boost output of lighter products such as petrol and diesel.

The conference will also examine alternatives such as solar and nuclear energy which Wattar said are essential if the Arabs are to meet energy demand in the next century.

### Products

Opec says Arab demand for refined products will grow at an average of five per cent annually through the year 2000 when it will almost double to 339 million tonnes.

Opec succeeded in pinning world oil prices at around \$18 a

barrrel for most of 1987 through production restraint after a 1986 collapse in the market.

But since the beginning of 1988 oil prices have slumped by up to \$4 a barrel and some Opec states have called for an emergency meeting of its price committee.

Noting conservation efforts in the West, he said: "We in the Arab world should be no less concerned with managing demand. For some it has become a necessity."

The oil ministers of Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar and Algeria — all members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) — are scheduled to speak and officials said Kuwait's Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa would lead a roundtable discussion on the world oil market.

Secretary-General of the Arab League Chadi Khuri arrived here last night to attend the conference.

**China announces foreign trade reforms**

BEIJING, March 13, (AP): China today announced foreign trade reforms that will give greater local autonomy to companies moving into international markets.

The State Council, China's cabinet, said the nation will introduce a contract system under which the power to handle most import and export commodities will be transferred to local foreign trade companies and certain well-managed industrial enterprises.

The official Xinhua news agency said areas and cities enjoying special status as foreign trade centres will be able to sign contracts with the state for the amount of hard currency they are

obliged to turn over to the state. Following introduction of the system, China will reduce mandatory state quotas for exports and the number of state-handled export commodities.

### Commodities

National Export and Import Corporations will handle only a small amount of commodities. Instead, their branches will become independent managerial entities run by local governments.

Xinhua said the new foreign trade structure encourages local authorities and export-oriented enterprises to participate in international competition.

The report said China this year will also reform its foreign

exchange managerial structure. Local governments, enterprises and institutions and foreign-funded businesses will be allowed to exchange their retained hard currency through government-run exchange centres.

It said China's coastal areas will be encouraged to develop export-oriented industries by expanding labour and expertise-intensive industries.

Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang has proposed significant increases in the number of coastal regions given preferential treatment in developing foreign trade as a means of helping China make greater inroads in world markets.

Meanwhile, a senior Chinese

trade official said in Kuwait yesterday that trade exchange between Kuwait and China reached a level of \$40 million last year.

At a press conference, Chiwy Dayo, deputy president of the Chinese Council for International Trade, said that Kuwait exported to China last year 430,000 tonnes of chemical fertilisers, while China exported many goods and merchandise topped by clothes and textiles which constituted 60 per cent of the whole exports.

Commercial exchange between China and the Gulf countries, the Chinese official said, trade witnessed an increase last year in comparison with the year before.

Chiwy Dayo is visiting Kuwait to attend the opening of the Chinese products exhibition scheduled for today.

He said that the exhibition, at which 25 Chinese companies will display their products, will be opened for the public until March 23 at the special hall of Kuwait International Fair Grounds.

Textiles, canned food, medical equipment, measurement tools, and many other light products will be available for businessmen and private citizens to examine and purchase if they wish.

This exhibition is the second for China in Kuwait, according to Dayo. The first, he added, was held in 1976.

One-month dealt at 2-1/2 per cent from three per cent levels on

0.27400/0.05.

## Sterling in markets' limelight

## Dollar outlook clouded

LONDON, March 13, (Reuter): Suddenly, last week, Britain took central stage in global currency and stock markets.

Huge sums poured into British bank accounts and British bonds, which pay high interest rates, a flow which sent the pound sterling skyrocketing and the dollar down.

Investors, who have spent the last five months since the crash of '87 worrying about US trade and budget deficits, now have a few questions to mull — whether the pound's climb will continue and what that might mean for the

Services

Naturally, a better way of getting financial advice would be if you could simply pay a straight fee in return for straight advice, no commissions would be involved and you could be sure that you could trust your adviser since he would lose business if his advice was consistently poor.

**Services**

Unfortunately, such services are not widely available. However, there is one other thing to consider: financial advisers are not supermen, they just know a lot more about the subject than you do. If you learn as much as you can about finance then you will narrow that knowledge gap and will be much more difficult to fool. After all, it's your money, you worked hard for it, and you should be prepared to work just as hard to make it grow.

**Services**

Traders had been nervous since the February 18 arrest of John Mulberian, founder of Jamie Securities, on weapons charges linked to threats against a witness in a grand jury investigation of alleged insider trading violations growing out of the Ivan Boesky affair.

Ivan Boesky has been fined \$100 million for violations of US securities law.

"It's almost the same kind of market we saw pre-October 19 and pre-Boesky, where rumours drove it up and rumours drove it down," said an investment banker. Last October 19, "Black Monday," was the day Wall Street's benchmark Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged 508 points, or 22.6 per cent.

Fears that the takeover bubble had burst were heightened by Forstmann Little's decision to drop its AFG bid on Thursday.

But financiers do not believe the AFG bid was dropped by Forstmann because of a change in the economic environment, or that it would affect other deals.

**Attractive**

Meanwhile, analysts say, a weak dollar makes US companies an especially attractive buy for foreigners.

Tyremaker Pirelli Spa of Italy

has bid \$1.86 billion for Firestone Tire and Rubber Co. while Beazer Plc of Britain is offering \$1.27 billion for Pittsburgh building material maker Koppers Co. Inc.

**Real Estate**

The Riyad-based bank said the new reserves increased total coverage to 10.5 per cent of outstanding advances compared with 8.2 per cent in 1986 and 6.1 per cent in 1985.

Saudi British had reported

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IN Kuwait City, Sharq, near Amiri Hospital, in a two-bedroom flat, sharing for a Muslim couple/small family. Tel: Javed, 2442647, 4-7 pm. (AT2-41370-3)

FARWANIYA, near Holiday Inn. One bedroom for a bachelor to share with a Goan bachelor. Bus routes 21, 22, 39. Rent KD30 with electricity and water. Tel: Linda, 2420550, from 9 am to 12.30 pm. (AT1-41357-3)

IN Salwa, House 196, Block 7, behind Irani shop. Two big rooms with all facilities, for a family/bachelors to share with an Indian family. Bus routes 34, 102. Rent KD50 each. Tel: 5611243. (AT2-41367-6)

ABDASIYA, behind telecommunications building. One room for 2 Mangalorean or Goan bachelors, to share with a Mangalorean family. Tel: Sebastian 4811466, 8 am to 11 am, 3.30 to 5.30 pm. (AT2-47359-3)

IN Kuwait City, behind Sheraton Hotel. Two bedrooms with electricity for Goan bachelors to share with an Indian. Rent KD30. Tel: Mr Augustine, Al-Saheb Sari Store, 2402967, from 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 8 pm. (AT1-41355-3)

SALMIYA, Mogira Street, Building No 2, near Indian School, room with water, electricity and tele. facilities for an Indian, easy access to all bus routes. Rent negotiable. Tel: Eric Almeida 5650466, after 5.30 pm. (AT2-41361-2)

IN Farwaniya, near Holiday Inn. One room for a bachelor to share with a Goan bachelor. Bus routes 21, 22, 39. Rent KD30 with electricity and water. Tel: Linda, 2420550, from 9 am to 12.30 pm. (AT1-41360-2)

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CHEVROLET, Nova, 1978, automatic, blue, in good running order. KD300 cash. Tel: Elizabeth 2452880 mornings only. (AT2-41366-3)

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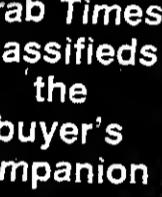
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CHEVROLET, Nova, 1978, automatic, blue, in good running order. KD300 cash. Tel: Elizabeth 2452880 mornings only. (AT2-41366-3)

BROTHER C.E.-60 electric typewriter, KD 80. Homebike KD.20. Both hardly used. Tel: Foldes 4811753, 8-11 a.m. (AT2-41311-2)

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Fully carpeted, domestic

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Bin Shuba Street

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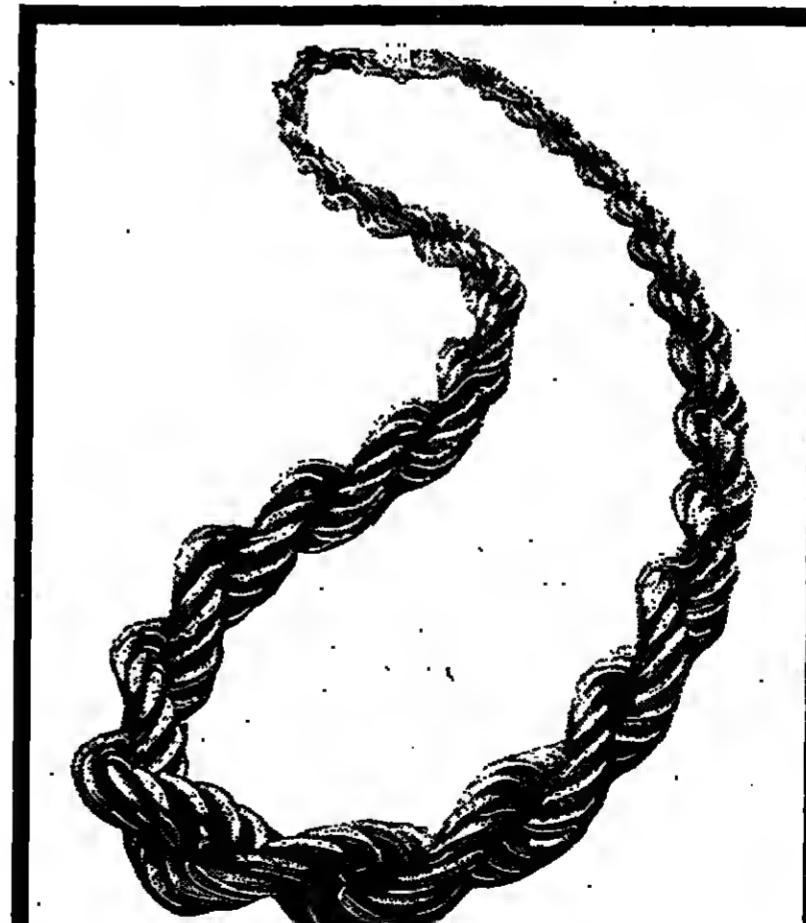
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# West Indies brush aside Pakistan

KINGSTON, Jamaica, March 13. (Reuters): The depth and quality of fast bowling in the Caribbean was again underlined by an outstanding performance from newcomer Curtley Ambrose, which clinched West Indies' 47-run win in their nine-day match against Pakistan yesterday.

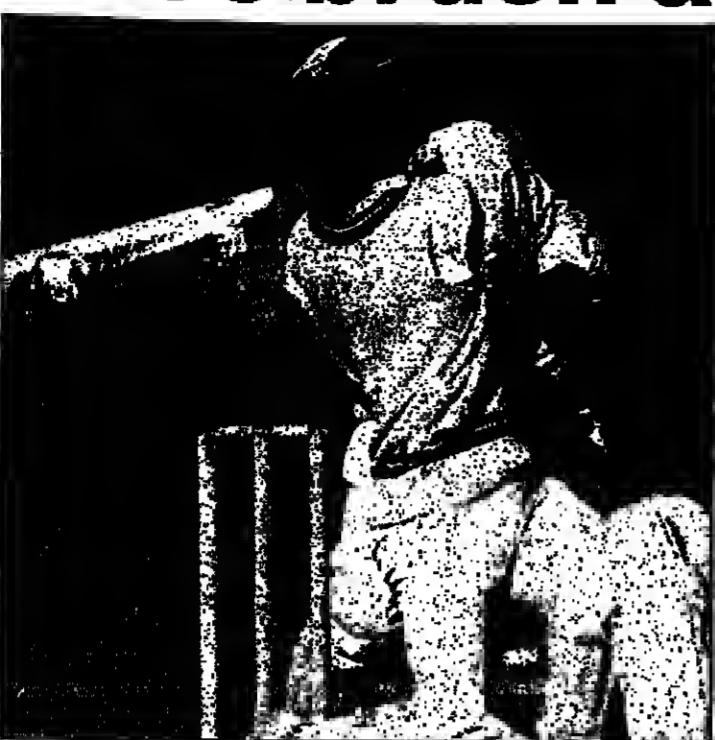
Ambrose, making his international debut, captured four for 39 in his 10 overs as Imran Khan's Pakistanis made 194 for seven in reply to the West Indies' 241 for four from their 46 overs in the opening game of the five-match series.

## Shared

Ambrose, a 24-year-old Antiguan, made a stunning start when he shared the new ball with Patrick Patterson by removing openers Rameez Raja and Shoaib Mohammad in his first and second overs.

Rameez tried to hook Ambrose's third delivery and the ball flew off the under edge of the bat and onto the stumps, while Shoaib was beaten and bowled by a fine delivery in the Antiguan's next over.

Ambrose completed his damaging debut by later claiming the crucial wickets of Javed Miandad, top scorer with 47, and



Logie: Man of the Match

Imran in consecutive overs.

The Antiguan paceman, who started playing competitively only three years ago, uses his height of six feet six inches to obtain considerable lift in much the same way as Joel Garner, and

which he was presented with the Most Valuable Player award before the international match here.

His match-winning bowling could scarcely have been more timely with Malcolm Marshall due to miss the first four nine-day games with a knee injury.

Equally heartening for a West Indian side in a transition period after the retirement from the international scene of Garner, Michael Holding and Larry Gomes was Gus Logie's first century in one-day internationals.

Logie, named Man of the Match, hit a superb 109 not out with 10 fours from 119 balls. His previous highest at this level was 88 against Australia in 1984.

Logie and Richie Richardson, who made a forceful 84, lifted West Indies from 25 for two with a three-wicket stand of 187 in 38.3 overs to the delight of a capacity 15,000 crowd at Sabina Park.

Imran, who won the toss, struck the early blows by dismissing openers Desmond Haynes and Phil Simmons and ended with three for 36 in his first bowl in a major game since his fifth retirement after the World Cup ended last November.

The second one-day international is here on Tuesday.

The second one-day

